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# STARS AND STRIPES®



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Volume 78, No. 249 ©SS 2020

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所 旗幟新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

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## CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

# Grim projections

US health officials warn number of dead in America could reach up to 240,000

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Trump resists idea of national quarantine

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A U.S. soldier walks inside a mobile surgical unit Tuesday in Seattle.

ELAINE THOMPSON / AP

## Could herd immunity keep coronavirus-afflicted aircraft carriers in the fight?

By SETH ROBSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — The Navy should encourage herd immunity for crews on aircraft carriers in the western Pacific, rather than quarantining sailors ashore who need to be ready for action in the South China Sea, a defense expert and former Navy warship captain said Wednesday.

The San Diego-based USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier, which has been operating in the western Pacific, diverted to Guam last week after sailors aboard tested positive for coronavirus.

Their commander, Capt. Brett Crozier, wrote to Navy leaders Monday asking that sailors be quarantined and isolated ashore. The virus has sickened 150 to 200 sailors on the ship, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

reported, citing a senior officer who is aboard.

Adm. John Aquilino, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, said during a Wednesday morning teleconference that the Navy is working with Guam's governor to find places, including hotels, if possible, to quarantine and isolate the sailors up to 14 days, according to the Pacific Daily News.

Sailors would rotate back to the carrier once they are free of the virus, he said, declining to provide specific numbers of how many will stay on the Theodore Roosevelt, according to the report.

"It's the number that's needed for the ship to remain operational," Aquilino said.

Theodore Roosevelt sailors who test positive are being moved off the ship and placed in isolation at Naval Base Guam for

**SEE CARRIERS ON PAGE 5**

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## At-home workers buying more shirts, fewer pants

By JACOB BOGAGE

The Washington Post

A few more shelves might be looking bare at Walmarts around the country, or at least a few more bins empty at fulfillment warehouses. Customers are making a run on tops: shirts, blouses, but-downs, polos, you name it.

As more people work from home during the coronavirus crisis and video conference becomes businesses' new lifeblood, pants are suddenly less important. When all a webcam captures is a

user's head and torso, employees are buying more shirts, according to Walmart, and not slacks.

"Talking about people using Zoom, and doing those types of conferencing, we're seeing increased sales in tops, but not bottoms," Dan Bartlett, Walmart's executive vice president of corporate affairs, told Yahoo Finance last week.

When workers are thrust into a work-from-home environment, they can sometimes feel internal and external pressure to boost

productivity, or at least feel that they're maintaining a sense of office decorum, said fashion psychologist Dawnn Karen, author of the book "Dress Your Best Life."

So when workers hop on a video chat with colleagues, they often grab a professional-looking top, even if they're still wearing pajamas or sweatpants out of view. And instead of rifling through drawers or closets, some people end up buying more outfits online.

That's where the sales bump is coming from, Karen said.

## EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rate	Commercial rates
Euro (cents) (April 2)	\$1.07	0.9664
Dollar buys (April 2)	€0.8910	0.9664
British pound (April 2)	1.21	0.8910
Japanese yen (April 2)	106.00	133.06
South Korean won (April 2)	1,188.00	6.8791
	(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking locations throughout the U.S. and Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For purchasing British pounds in Germany, check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are market rates available for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-euro, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771	
British pound	\$1.2426	
China (Yuan)	0.142	
China (Yuan)	7.1022	
Denmark (Krone)	6.8293	
Egypt (Pound)	15.9776	
Egypt (Pound)	€1,093.00/1,094.00	
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7526	
Hungary (Forint)	334.17	
Iceland (Icelandic króna)	3,156.00	
Japan (Yen)	107.20	
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3130	
Norway (Krone)	10.2996	
Poland (Złoty)	4.20	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7621	
Singapore (Dollar)	1.4347	
South Korea (Won)	1,291.63	

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds market rate	0.10
3-month bill	0.09
30-year bond	1.35

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

## THURSDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



## THURSDAY IN EUROPE



## FRIDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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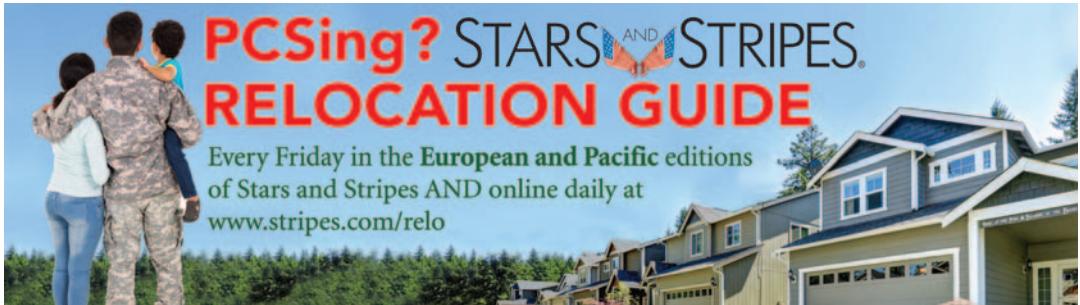
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## MILITARY

# Thousands of S. Korean employees furloughed

BY KIM GAMEL  
AND YOO KYONG CHANG  
*Stars and Stripes*

**CAMP HUMPHREYS**, South Korea — Following months of warnings, the U.S. military put 4,500 South Korean base employees — about half its local workforce — on unpaid leave indefinitely Wednesday after the allies failed to agree on a new defense cost-sharing deal.

The furlough — the first of its kind — was a blow to the alliance and joint military readiness to fight on the divided peninsula, which commanders say already has been jeopardized by restrictions on movement aimed at preventing spread of the coronavirus.

Negotiators have been deadlocked over the United States' demand that South Korea sharply increase its contribution to offset the costs of stationing some 28,500 service members on the divided peninsula as defense against the nuclear-armed North.

U.S. Forces Korea commander Gen. Robert Abrams expressed regret and promised to continue to press both governments to reach a new Special Measures Agreement as soon as possible since the previous deal expired at the end of the year.

"The partial furlough of (South Korean) employees is not what we envisioned or hoped would happen," he said in a videotaped message. "The furlough is in no way a reflection of their performance, dedication or conduct, but rather due to a lack of a burden-sharing agreement making programmed funds unavailable."

"These are our employees, our



The US must immediately accept the ROK's proposal to settle the KN employees wages  
기국은 인건비 우선해결 위한 한국정부 세안 즉시  
something."

KIM GAMEL/*Stars and Stripes*

**Members of the South Korean employees union protest the U.S. Forces Korea furlough outside the main gate at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Wednesday.**

co-workers, our teammates, and we consider them family," he added. "And while this is an unfortunate situation, and we will miss them dearly, we will work to minimize the impact on our 'fight tonight' posture despite the strenuous circumstances."

South Korean officials blamed the American side, saying they had offered compromises including a way to isolate the labor issue while continuing to negotiate on other items.

"Our government has suggested a variety of measures, including the execution of a budget to address the wage issue first, based upon the notion that the furlough

does help the combined defense posture," said defense ministry spokeswoman Choi Hyun-soo.

She added that the government would push for a special law to grant loans to help the USFK employees who were ordered not to report to work.

"The ministry will continue to work closely with the U.S. Department of Defense and USFK to prevent the current situation from affecting the joint posture," she said.

The Americans had been paying salaries for the first three months of 2020 with programmed funds, but those dried up on Tuesday.

Pong Ha-song, a 60-year-old

dining facility employee who has been with USFK for nearly 30 years, said he hopes a deal can be reached soon so he can go back to work.

"President Trump has been holding Korean USFK workers hostage. This is a hard blow to us," he said Wednesday as he joined the Korean Employees' Union in a small protest outside Camp Humphreys, the main U.S. base south of Seoul.

"My family's livelihood is in danger and I'm going to have difficulties putting food on the table," he added. "If the furlough drags on, I think I'm going to have to look for a part-time job or

something."

Hopes were raised when South Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed to send coronavirus testing kits to the U.S. during a phone conversation with Trump last week. Three South Korean firms are planning to ship the diagnostic equipment after winning interim approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

On Tuesday, Jeong Eun-bo, South Korea's lead negotiator, said the two sides were close to a deal after seven rounds of talks, most recently in mid-March in Los Angeles, and were continuing close discussions.

The Yonhap News Agency, quoting an unidentified diplomatic source, also reported that the two sides had reached "the stage of putting on the finishing touches" and could announce a deal later Wednesday.

But a Foreign Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with department rules, played down the report and said no official announcement was in the works.

U.S. negotiators have reportedly dropped initial demands for a fivefold increase in funding of nearly \$5 billion a year but are still seeking an increase of at least three times the \$920 million that South Korea paid last year.

Seoul, meanwhile, is believed to have offered to go as high as 10% more but wants to maintain the framework of the agreement, which covers most of the South Korean workers' salaries as well as other logistical and construction costs.

game.kim@stripes.com  
Twitter: @kimgamel  
chang.kyong@stripes.com

## 23 Air Force units will become part of the Space Force

BY COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

**WASHINGTON** — Twenty-three U.S.-based Air Force units focused on space operations will move into the Space Force in the coming months as officials build up the military's newest branch, Pentagon officials announced Tuesday.

The units include about 1,840 positions to transfer from the Air Force's control into the Space Force, said Maj. William Russell, a spokesman for the Space Force. Air Force and Space Force officials hope to complete the transfers of those units in the next three to six months, but they conceded the moves would only occur when conditions for each unit were such that a smooth transition could be guaranteed.

The units identified to move conduct a variety of space-based missions including intelligence collection, space-based weapons research and protecting U.S. space assets, such as critical GPS and communications satellites. Most of the units are located in Colorado, where the bulk of

the military's space mission is housed but others are located in Maryland, Ohio, California, Hawaii and New Mexico. None of the units will physically move their location to become part of the Space Force, Russell said.

These are the units that will transfer into the Space Force and their locations:

- 17th Test Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.
- 18th Intel Squadron, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio
- 25th Space Range Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.
- 328th Weapons Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.
- 527th Space Aggressor Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.
- 705th Combat Training Squadron, Operating Location-Alpha, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.
- 544th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group Staff and Detachment 5, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.
- Detachment 1, U.S. Air Force Warfare Center, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.
- 533rd Training Squadron,

Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

■ National Security Space Institute, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

■ Counter-Space Analysis Squadron, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

■ Space Analysis Squadron, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

■ Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center Detachment 4, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

■ Air Force Safety Center - Space Safety Division, Kirtland Air Force Base N.M.

Portions of these units will also transfer into the Space Force:

- 16th Air Force/Advanced Programs, Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.
- 7th Intel Squadron, Fort Meade, Md.
- 32nd Intel Squadron, Fort Meade, Md.
- 566th Intel Squadron, Buckley Air Force Base, Colo.
- Air Force Research Lab Mission Execution, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio
- Air Force Research Lab

Space Vehicles Directorate, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

■ Air Force Research Lab Rocket Propulsion Division, Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

■ Air Force Research Lab Electro-Optical Division, Maui, Hawaii & Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

■ Air Force Research Lab Sensors Directorate, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

The units will join some 16,000 airmen and Air Force civilian workers who had worked for the former Air Force Space Command, which was moved into Space Force control earlier this year. But none of those airmen have officially transferred into the Space Force, which has only one active member — Gen. John Raymond, the chief of space operations.

For now, airmen serving in units that have or will soon transfer into the Space Force will remain in the Air Force but assigned temporarily to a Space Force mission, while officials complete the process for service members to move from their current service into the Space Force.

Russell said the process should be worked out in the coming months. Soldiers, Marines and sailors in certain space-focused units are expected to be allowed to move into the Space Force in the coming years.

Later this year, airmen will be allowed to volunteer to transfer into the Space Force, Airmen who are assigned to a unit under Space Force control and choose not to move into the new service "will remain in the Air Force and assigned to the Space Force unit until their normal assignment rotation is complete, at which time they will be moved to an assignment within the Air Force," Russell said.

Raymond told reporters last week that he did not expect restrictions on movement implemented by the Defense Department amidst the coronavirus pandemic to significantly slow the Space Force's growth.

The general said he expected thousands of airmen to transfer officially into his new service by the end of the year.

dickstein.corey@stripes.com  
Twitter: @CoreyDicksteinDC

## MILITARY

# USAFA moves up graduation after cadet deaths

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force Academy has moved its graduation up by more than a month to mid-April as it continues to fight the coronavirus and grapples with the suspected suicides of two seniors, the superintendent of the academy said in a message to cadets.

"On April 18th, the class of 2020 will receive their diplomas in a ceremony designed by cadets," Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria said in the message, which was posted in academy Facebook groups.

"It will not be the traditional graduation ceremony you have imagined for years, but it can be one-of-a-kind and unique ... like the class of 2020," said Silveria, himself a

graduate of the academy.

The decision to move the graduation ceremony forward was taken after two cadets were found dead in their rooms last week in what investigators believe were suicides.

The deaths caused the academy to rethink the strict restrictions imposed on graduating seniors, who have remained on campus since underclassmen were dismissed nearly three weeks ago as part of the academy's efforts to fight the coronavirus.

"We are at war with ... a global pandemic, and that fight is unconventional," Silveria said.

"As a commander in conventional conflict, I had years of history to call on when making decisions — a playbook we don't

have as we battle this pandemic," he said, announcing that graduation was being moved up by nearly six weeks from its original date of May 28.

"We must make unconventional decisions and take what some would consider extreme measures," Silveria said.

The new ceremony, which the graduating class is planning itself, will allow cadets to "celebrate together while ensuring their health and safety by adhering to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Department of Defense guidelines" against the coronavirus, a post on a Facebook page for alumni said.

No guests, including family and friends, will be allowed to attend the ceremony in person, but it will be livestreamed, the post

said.

The date change came after Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett, Gen. David Goldfein, the service chief of staff, and Gen. John Raymond, the chief of space operations, visited the academy Monday and spoke with cadets to try to work through some of the issues they've faced during the pandemic, Air Force Academy officials said in a statement.

On Tuesday, some recreational facilities were reopened for cadets, harsh punishment for breaching social distancing rules were waived and more restrictions were lifted, including a ban on leaving campus, several cadets told Stars and Stripes.

[news.stripes.com](http://news.stripes.com)



MARK E. MORROW JR./U.S. Marine Corps

## Beach training

Marines maneuver combat rubber raiding crafts at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, N.C., on March 18 during Type Commander Amphibious Training. The purpose of TCAT is for the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit and participating elements to rehearse amphibious operations. The Marines are with 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

## US government returns 27 acres of land on Okinawa Marine base back to locals

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The U.S. government returned a small portion of a Marine Corps base to the Okinawa prefectural government Tuesday in what amounts to the last planned land return without preconditions.

The 27-acre parcel includes frontage on the main highway, Route 58, between Camp Foster and Camp Lester. It was the site of the Facilities and Engineering Compound, Japan's Ministry of Defense said in a statement on its website.

The return is the latest piece of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs' 2013 Consolidation Plan for Facilities and Areas in Okinawa, which focuses on land south of Kadena Air Base. Under that plan, the U.S. military has already returned 150 acres from Foster Camp Kinser and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

The plan calls for the return of another 2,400 acres by 2028 or later, including all of Futenma and significant portions of Kinser. Certain conditions must be met before some of that land can be returned, however, like the completion of a new airfield at Camp Schwab in northern Okinawa to replace Futenma.

[burke.matt@stripes.com](mailto:burke.matt@stripes.com)  
Twitter: @MatthewBurke1  
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Ayatchihashi

## AFRICOM plans reports after group's allegations of more civilian deaths

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — U.S. Africa Command said it is assessing a new allegation from a human rights group that two civilians were killed in separate February airstrikes in Somalia, and will begin issuing quarterly reports this month on possible civilian casualties to boost transparency.

"There is no set timeline for the completion of these assessments, as we have a rigorous process and we will not rush, nor cut corners," AFRICOM said in a statement.

On Wednesday, Amnesty International issued a report which said it found evidence that two civilians were killed and three injured in the two airstrikes.

The organization said it interviewed the victims' relatives, community members and associates, and that those killed were not connected to the Al-Shabab terrorist group. The strikes happened Feb. 2 and Feb. 24. At the time, AFRICOM in news releases said that no civilians were harmed in the strikes against militants.

Tuesday, AFRICOM said that it intends to issue its first quarterly report which will update the public on civilian casualty allegations and assessments, and whether cases are open or closed.

"Since I took command last year, we have been reviewing and revising our (civilian casualty) tracking, assessment and reporting procedures," AFRICOM's Gen. Stephen Townsend said in a statement. "To demonstrate our transparency and commitment to protecting civilians from unnecessary harm, we plan to publicize our initial report by the end of this month, and we will provide quarterly updates thereafter."

In its latest report, Amnesty International identified Nurto

**“To demonstrate our transparency and commitment to protecting civilians from unnecessary harm, we plan to publicize our initial report by the end of this month, and we will provide quarterly updates thereafter.”**

Gen. Stephen Townsend  
AFRICOM

Kusow Omar Abukar, an 18-year-old woman, as a civilian killed in the Feb. 2 strike, which injured her two younger sisters and grandmother.

On Feb. 24, a Hellfire missile from another U.S. airstrike killed 53-year-old Mohamud Salad Moamen, Amnesty also reported.

Last year, Amnesty issued multiple reports that accused AFRICOM of killing more than a dozen civilians in various strikes in Somalia. So far, AFRICOM has acknowledged killing one civilian in its air campaign against militants in Somalia, where the pace of airstrikes has steadily intensified during the past several years in an effort to neutralize the terrorist group.

AFRICOM has disputed Amnesty's other previous allegations, however.

"Our in-depth post-strike analysis relies on intelligence methods that are not available to non-military organizations, including Amnesty International," AFRICOM said.

[vandiver.john\\_vandiver@stripes.com](mailto:vandiver.john_vandiver@stripes.com)

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# New rules keep spouses out of delivery room in Vicenza

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY

*Stars and Stripes*

**VICENZA, Italy** — Pregnant Americans living in Vicenza will have to deliver their babies without spouses or other support people present because the local Italian hospital, with restrictive new rules to prevent coronavirus spread, is the only option.

The U.S. Army garrison's birthing center, closed six years ago, can't be reopened any time soon, health center commander Lt. Col. Joe Matthews said at a virtual town hall meeting Tuesday.

The decision at San Bartolo Hospital to exclude partners mirrors many medical facilities in cities with large numbers of coronavirus infections, though two U.S. military hospitals in Europe continue to allow one support person.

However, traveling to those U.S. facilities for obstetric care was likely unworkable because of safety reasons and movement re-

strictions, said Maj. Ezella Washington, the center's chief medical officer.

Giving birth at less restrictive nearby Italian hospitals in Padova or Verona posed another set of problems, Washington said, including lack of translation services and increasing case numbers of coronavirus there.

Home births are out because few midwives in Italy attend them and the military insurer Tricare doesn't pay for them.

"Right now the only option and the safest option is San Bartolo," Washington said in the meeting.

It's unclear how many women associated with U.S. Army Garrison Italy are pregnant or soon to give birth.

Col. Ken Burgess, commander of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, said recently that he was aware of at least 86 pregnant people associated with his command.

San Bartolo Hospital recently banned almost all visitors as it seeks to minimize transmission of

a virus that has killed more Italians than any other nationality.

Other hospitals in global hot-spots also have banned support people from attending the births and visiting afterward.

Such rules have prompted outcries. After New York City hospitals barred visitors, a protest petition drew more than 600,000 signatures. Within days, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered hospitals to allow one support person to help during labor, delivery and after birth.

The Navy's hospital in Naples also allows one person, it said this week.

"The support person must remain in the patient's room for the entirety of admission (admission to discharge) and cannot be switched to another person once admitted," the policy issued Tuesday said.

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center is also allowing a support person. The hospital used to permit "stork nesting," a program to



NANCY MONTGOMERY/Stars and Stripes

**Army Health Center in Vicenza, Italy, is shown. Pregnant women in the U.S. military community will have to give birth without their spouses or other support people after the local Italian hospital barred nearly all visitors because of coronavirus.**

allow women to give birth there, after Vicenza's birthing center closed. But that policy changed some time ago.

"It is not permissible for pregnant mothers to come to LRMC for stork nesting for the sole reason of having a partner present for delivery," said Gino Mazzatorta, a spokeswoman for the Regional Health Command Europe.

Vicenza officials said they were still exploring options and that it was possible that some women with exceptional circumstances might gain approval to give birth elsewhere.

But Antigone Miller, who deliv-

ered a baby at San Bartolo a week ago, told the town hall viewers that her experience was a good one, despite initially being "terrified" to leave her husband could not be with her. The nurses were kind and attentive, she said, she had her own room and her baby stayed with her until their release after 48 hours.

"It wasn't the same as having my husband there but I felt safe," Miller said. "I felt very cared for."

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com  
Twitter:@montgomerynance

## Carriers: Former captain says best course of action is to 'ride it out'

### FROM FRONT PAGE

their required isolation period. Joint Region Marianas spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Rick Moore told Stars and Stripes in an email Wednesday.

"We are not going to confirm specifics about where USS Theodore Roosevelt Sailors are being quarantined or isolated on Naval Base Guam," he said. "Medical representatives from Naval Base Guam evaluate them daily."

The Navy will continue to work with the government of Guam and the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association to identify lodging at several hotels for sailors from the ship, he said.

However, Jan van Tol, a former Navy captain who commanded several warships, including the Japan-based USS O'Brien and USS Essex, said it would be a mistake to quarantine most of carrier's crew ashore.

"One needs to maintain a capital ship on deployment ready to fight at any time," van Tol, now a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assess-

ments in Washington, told Stars and Stripes via email Wednesday. "We never know when a conflict or crisis might emerge, especially for ships deployed to [the western Pacific] these days, which remains particularly germane given the current U.S.-China relations."

U.S. Naval Base Guam increased its health-protection level to Charlie on Tuesday, which indicates a substantial risk of coronavirus. The following day, Guam Gov. Leon Guerrero announced a third coronavirus death on the U.S. island territory, local broadcaster KUAM news reported.

At Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan, at least two sailors aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan have tested positive for the virus, Fox News reported Saturday. The Navy hasn't confirmed the news or released information about any other tests on the carrier, but Yokosuka went into lockdown on Saturday.

If both the Theodore Roosevelt and the Ronald Reagan were un-

able to fight due to quarantining, the Chinese military might seek to exploit the situation, particularly in the South China Sea, van Tol said.

"We have to consider the perceptions and reactions of outside parties if we elect to take major units out of action," he said.

Crozier, in his letter, argued that removing most of the crew from the ship and isolating them for two weeks, although an extraordinary measure, is a necessary risk.

"It will enable the carrier and air wing to get back underway as quickly as possible while ensuring the health and safety of our Sailors," he wrote.

The coronavirus seems to have quite low lethality for young people, and many don't even realize they've had it, van Tol said, adding that average age of sailors at sea is 19 to 20 years old.

The best course of action would be to "ride it out" by allowing sailors to get sick, recover and develop "herd immunity" as a crew, he said.

Herd immunity involves letting the virus spread through a population in a controlled manner to build a natural form of immunity. It's being done in Sweden, where authorities are allowing the virus to spread slowly while sheltering the elderly and the vulnerable until much of the population becomes naturally immune or a vaccine becomes available.

However, it's been rejected in other places where authorities are concerned about medical systems being overwhelmed. The Australian newspaper reported Wednesday.

Van Tol said both aircraft carriers should stay pier-side in Guam and Japan so that cases with serious symptoms can be moved quickly to hospitals.

Theodore Roosevelt's captain has a moral duty to protect his crew, van Tol added.

"However, mission readiness must come first, and for a ship deployed to [the western Pacific], that means remaining manned

and ready to fight even if some of the crew are ill," he said.

robson.seth@stripes.com

Twitter:@SethRobson1

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## Another positive test raises USFK total to 14

BY KIM GAMEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

**SEOUL, South Korea** — U.S. Forces Korea confirmed another positive coronavirus case at Camp Humphreys on Wednesday, raising its total to 14, the military said.

Thorough cleaning of affected areas and contact tracing to find others who may have been exposed was underway, USFK said in a

tweet. It didn't provide more details, saying additional information would be announced soon.

The latest case comes as Camp Humphreys, the main U.S. military base in South Korea, was partially locked down since Friday after four other cases were confirmed.

Two soldiers have been infected. The others were four military dependents, four

American contractors and four South Korean employees.

Orders barring nonessential movement on Camp Humphreys, a sprawling base with a population of more than 37,000 people, would remain in effect at least through Thursday, USFK said.

gamel.kim@stripes.com  
Twitter:@kimgamel

## MILITARY/VIRUS OUTBREAK



Family photo

**Army Capt. Douglas Linn Hickok died Saturday at age 57.**

## 1st DOD victim was set to activate, use his medical skills

By ROSE L. THAYER

Stars and Stripes

Army Capt. Douglas Linn Hickok was preparing to act as a physician assistant with the New Jersey National Guard in response to the coronavirus pandemic when the 57-year-old became sick with the virus. He entered a Pennsylvania hospital on March 21 and died Saturday.

Hickok is the first military service member to die from coronavirus, which has infected 673 military members and sent more than 30 to the hospital.

"My brother didn't run away from this virus," said Mary Hickok-Scott, Hickok's younger sister. "He could have. He could have said, 'I'm out.' But he didn't. He ran towards it."

Unable to travel to be together, the Hickok family is spread across the country grieving for a man they may put "God, country and family first."

"He would give the shirt off his back to anyone as long as I can remember," his sister said from her home in Washington state. As a kid, "he would bring home stray pets or friends from school who couldn't afford lunch and have my mom feed them. He was as true as a person could get."

Hickok, a third-generation service member, was born at Norman Air Force Base, Okla., said Shandrea Hickok, his 26-year-old daughter. He and his five siblings were raised mostly in California, where he loved to play baseball and earned his Eagle Scout badge at age 16.

He first moved to the East Coast to attend Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., and became a physician assistant with an emphasis on orthopedic surgery. That work was his passion, Hickok-Scott said.

In 2010, he joined the New Jersey National Guard as a direct commission due to his critical skills, according to Lt. Col. Barbara Brown, spokeswoman for the New Jersey Army National Guard. Hickok had 28 years of medical experience in orthopedic surgery, acute care, employee health, trauma surgery and medicine.

"That's what he wanted — to continue on with the military because of his family legacy and also wanted to focus on emergency medicine in the military," Shandrea Hickok said from her home in New Jersey.

Last summer, she said her father helped save two soldiers who were injured in a vehicle accident while driving to a National Guard training event.

"I got the opportunity to meet the two soldiers at a barbecue," she said. "It was a very humbling experience to see how heroic my father was to go run down a very steep hill to go get these soldiers and pull them out of the truck."

Her brother, 24-year-old Noah Hickok, is in his final semester at Rutgers University and is applying to the Navy's Officer Commissioning School to continue that legacy, she said.

Hickok lived alone in Bangor, Pa., for the last three years, moving there because he loved the outdoors and the firearm ownership afforded in that state, his daughter said. He was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In his younger days, he'd served a two-year mission in Spain and spoke fluent Spanish.

"My dad had a really strong sense of exploration to him always going out and traveling and stuff like that," Shandrea Hickok said. About a month ago — one of their last moments together — she and her father visited Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark in New Jersey.

Not only has the coronavirus taken Hickok's life, it's also robbed the family of the opportunity to truly grieve, Shandrea Hickok said. During her father's final days, the hospital would not allow anyone at his bedside for fear of further spreading the virus.

"It's usually a really specific grief process," she said of the rituals that follow losing a relative. "For this, it's just really different."

thayer.rose@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Rose\_Lori

# Pentagon data shows rise in military-related cases

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Four U.S. military-affiliated individuals worldwide, including a member of the National Guard, have died of complications related to the coronavirus, according to the Pentagon's latest data released Tuesday.

The latest Defense Department data included a civilian worker's death not previously reported and the death of a New Jersey National Guardsman who died Saturday.

Pentagon officials did not immediately return a request for comment Tuesday on the civilian worker's death.

The first two military-linked deaths announced by military officials occurred in Virginia last month. A defense contractor assigned to the Arlington-based Defense Security Cooperation Agency died March 21, officials said. The spouse of a soldier based at Joint Base Langley-Eustis near Newport News died March 26 after testing positive for the virus.

Stars and Stripes on Monday reported a longtime German employee of the U.S. Army's 21st Theater Sustainment Command jumped by 82 since Monday morning to a total of 716.

The Pentagon said 42 service members had recovered from the illness by Tuesday.

Thirty-one troops were hospitalized by the virus, according to the data.

Pentagon officials have said in recent weeks that they expected cases would continue to climb in

the military community just as in the civilian community.

They have urged commanders to ensure their troops are taking precautions to protect against the virus, including frequent hand washing and social distancing.

Most U.S. military bases across the globe have moved the majority of their force to telework and closed post access to only people deemed mission essential.

The Pentagon on Friday ordered local installations to no longer announce publicly data showing the number of coronavirus cases on their posts.

Officials cited operational security, telling reporters that such data could provide adversaries information about military units that have been hit especially hard by the virus, potentially leaving them vulnerable.

The officials pledged to continue to work with local civilian communities to advise them of any threat of the virus from the post.

They also said they would continue to publicly announce coronavirus-linked deaths at the department's installations.

dickstein.corey@stripes.com  
Twitter: @CDicksteinDC

## Fort Hood-based soldier's death is 7th for coalition in Iraq this year

By CHAD GARLAND  
*Stars and Stripes*

A 44-year-old soldier from Maryland died in a noncombat incident in northern Iraq this week, the Defense Department said Wednesday.

Sgt. 1st Class John David Randolph Hiltz, from Bowie, Md., died Monday in Irbil, the Pentagon said in a statement. COVID-19 was not a suspected cause in Hiltz's death, the U.S.-led Operation Inherent Resolve said earlier.

Hiltz was a petroleum supply specialist with the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, the Fort Hood, Texas-based command said.

U.S. and other foreign troops are mainly based at a compound at the northern Iraqi city's international airport. Earlier this month, the base hosted a memorial for another 1-227 soldier, Spc. Juan M. Mendez Covarrubias, who was one of three coalition troops killed in a March 11 rocket attack on Camp Taji, north of Baghdad.

Hiltz joined the Army as a combat engineer in April 1999



**Hiltz**  
and deployed three times to Afghanistan before deploying to Iraq in October. 1st Cav said in a statement. His many decorations include the

Bronze Star Medal with one oak leaf cluster; a Joint Service Commendation Medal and Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

"He was an exceptional leader who will be sorely missed throughout the entire formation," said 1-227 commander Lt. Col. Adam Camarano.

He was due to retire in June, said Adam Sisk, who said the soldier was a high school classmate of his.

"He often told me ... '5 more paychecks! 3 more paychecks and I am outta here!'" Sisk said in a Facebook post. "We had a bunch of beers on the schedule for this summer."

His death marks the seventh fatality for the coalition this year. Six occurred in March alone and

all but two were combat-related. The cause of Hiltz's death was under investigation, the Pentagon statement said.

Sisk last communicated with him last week, he said, adding that he found it odd when a funny video he sent him on Monday went unseen.

"He was normally quick to respond with 'wot,' he said.

Hiltz had a young son who was one of the "most important people in his life," Sisk said.

In 2009, when Hiltz returned from a 12-month Afghanistan deployment — his third — he was quoted in an Army statement while holding his baby boy, then just a year old, after a redeployment ceremony.

"He's huge, he's a little miracle," Hiltz said of his son. "We've been married 10 years and we finally got one!"

At the time, Hiltz loved the Army life, he said, but returning home from deployment "is the best feeling in the world."

In his post, Sisk thanked his friend and told him to rest easy.

"We will have those Natty Lights soon!" he said.

garland.chad@stripes.com  
Twitter: @chadgarland

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Russia says it sent supplies to US after chat

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A Russian aircraft stocked with medical supplies is flying to the U.S. after President Donald Trump accepted an offer of support, the Russian defense and foreign ministries said Wednesday.

"The Russian plane with medical masks and medical equipment on board has departed for the United States," the defense ministry told Russia's Tass news agency.

It wasn't clear where the plane was headed in the U.S., but it was expected to arrive Wednesday. The Russian Foreign Ministry

said the flight came after talks between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Trump earlier in the week.

The White House had not yet commented on the talks or the aid delivery early Wednesday.

A large Antonov An-124 Ruslan cargo plane was dispatched to "help fight #COVID19 pandemic, save lives of American citizens," the foreign ministry said on Twitter.

Since the coronavirus outbreak, Russia has touted its aid efforts in countries hard hit by the virus, such as Italy, where Moscow recently sent medics and supplies.

The efforts have been met with

**'It's a gift TO the Kremlin, not FROM it, if it is true.'**

Ben Hodges  
former commander, U.S. Army Europe

appreciation by some but skepticism from some Russian hawks, who consider the moves part of a broader disinformation campaign to undermine the West and NATO.

Ben Hodges, the former commander of U.S. Army Europe, was leery when pictures of the

aircraft filled with boxes began circulating on social media Wednesday.

"I'm skeptical of this report ... no Loadmaster in the world would load that like," Hodges said on Twitter, taking issue with how the cargo was piled into the Russian aircraft.

"But it's a gift TO the Kremlin, not FROM it, if it is true," Hodges said.

Like Russia, China — where the virus originated — also has sought out opportunities for public relations wins, even though it was slow to report the virus' initial outbreak in Wuhan, analysts said.

"Beijing is aggressively engaged in a propaganda campaign to characterize its response to COVID-19 as decisive and representative of a superior system, while calling the response of Western democracies like the United States 'sloppy,'" wrote John Lee, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute think tank, in an analysis of Chinese information operations.

Sometimes, however, China's efforts backfire. Last week, Spain was forced to reject 58,000 Chinese test kits because they were inaccurate at detecting the virus.

vandiver.john@stripes.com  
Twitter: @john\_vandiver

## Navy families in Naples 'Get Down Tonight' with the Giant Voice

By ANN PINSON  
Stars and Stripes

Landon Schoenborn, a kindergartner who lives at Naval Support Activity Naples in Italy, counts down to Wednesdays and Fridays every week. Those evenings, he gets to be part of a socially distanced balcony sing-along with his neighbors.

"It's a chance to hang over the rail and shout hello to their best friends and neighbors in our building who they haven't played with in so long," said Tiffany Schoenborn, mom to Landon and his 3-year-old sister, Emelia. "Being stuck in our house, missing out on play dates, parties, school with friends and beloved teachers, and being restricted to our patios for their only outside play space, isn't the best."

"But I hope that, having and participating in things like Operation Fun/GDT (Get Down Tonight), this can be a time they'll look back on and remember fondly despite the circumstances."

Operation Fun/GDT (Get Down Tonight) features music played over the base's loudspeakers, known as the Giant Voice, at 6 p.m. two nights a week, as residents get a chance to wave hello and bob along. Italy has been hit particularly hard by the coronavirus pandemic, and the program was designed to give those on base, whose movement is limited under the country's sweeping coronavirus restrictions, a chance for a sense of community.

NASA Naples Commanding Officer Capt. Todd Abrahamson came up with the idea for the event, and residents get to vote for the songs they want played via options on the base's Facebook page. Voting is a hot topic for the Cockerham family, who live on base.

"Every Wednesday and Friday, I'll tell them the song choices and we choose which to vote for then we anxiously wait for 1800 to roll around," said Kayla Cockerham, mom to 8-year-old son Jayden; daughter Brylee, who just turned 8, and 2-year-old Jeff.

"My daughter is the one who helps me remember and be on top of us going out on the patio close to 1800. We try to make the most of it and dance around and sing along."

Her 2-year-old was particularly thrilled when "Baby Shark" made the playlist, she said. Each installment features two songs around a theme. For example, a classic rock night included Queen's "We Will Rock You" and Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'."

Grace Bordt, a base resident, said her 8-year-old daughter Faith made tissue-paper pom-poms to wave during the songs. Her 10-year-old likes voting for selections online but needs encouragement to get out the door to dance. Not so much for Mom.

"It's so fun for me to dance around holding my 10-month-old, she seems a little overwhelmed

by how loud it is but eventually giggles," Grace Bordt said. "It's a nice way to break up our time spent inside. Most times we forget it's happening so then it seems like a surprise every time the music comes on."

Listening to music over a loudspeaker might not be a priority if just adults were home, Tiffany

Schoenborn says, but it's a must-do with the youngsters.

"It seems kinda silly and the echoey loudspeaker quality isn't the greatest, but no matter the weather we're out there with our kids because they love it," she said.

pinson.ann@stripes.com  
Twitter: @annpinson



DONAVAN K. PATUBO/U.S. Navy

Community members at Naval Support Activity Naples in Italy take part in Operation Fun/GDT ('Get Down Tonight') last week. The singalong event is held on Wednesdays and Fridays evenings during the movement restrictions in place because of the coronavirus.



BAMBERG  
Zollner Str. 187  
95052 Bamberg  
Phone: 0951-700899  
rosie.short@hblkblock.com

VILSECK  
Ambergstr. 1  
92249 Vilseck  
Phone: 09662-701339  
jorellano@hblkblock.com

GRAFENWOERH  
AAFES Shopping Mall  
Seasonal Office  
Phone: 0152-520-68935  
jorellano@hblkblock.com

VILSECK  
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## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Volunteers flood NY to help as death toll surges

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — New York authorities rushed to bring in an army of medical volunteers Wednesday as the statewide death toll from the coronavirus surged past 1,900 and the wait of ambulances in the otherwise eerily quiet streets of the big city became the heartbreak soundtrack of the crisis.

As hot spots flared around the country in places like New Orleans, Detroit and Southern California, New York City was the hardest hit of them all, accounting for the majority of the state's deaths, with bodies loaded onto refrigerated morgue trucks by gurney and forklift outside overwhelmed hospitals, in some cases in full view of passing motorists. And the worst is yet to come.

"How does it end? And people want answers," New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said. "I want answers. The answer is nobody knows for sure."

Across the U.S., Americans braced for what President Donald Trump warned could be "one of the roughest two or three weeks we've ever had in our country." The White House projected 100,000 to 240,000 deaths in the U.S. before the outbreak is over.

Meanwhile, European nations

facing extraordinary demand for hospital intensive-care beds are putting up makeshift hospitals, unsure whether they will find enough healthy medical staff to run them. London is just days from unveiling a 4,000-bed temporary hospital built in a huge convention center to take non-critical patients so that British hospitals can stay ahead of an expected surge.

Few have made it into the field yet, as authorities vet them and figure out how to use them, but hospitals are expected to begin bringing them in later this week.

Health care workers who have hit the ground already many brought in by staffing agencies, have discovered a hospital system becoming overwhelmed.

"I have never seen so many human beings in an ER at one time in my entire life," said Liz Schaffer, a nurse from St. Paul, Minn., who had her first shift Tuesday at Mount Sinai Hospital. "Shoulder to shoulder. It is a sight I never thought I would see. Patients are dying every day. Every

In a remarkable turnaround, rich economies where virus cases have exploded are welcoming help from less wealthy ones. Russia sent medical equipment and masks to the U.S. Cuba sent doctors to France. Turkey dispatched masks, hazmat suits, goggles and disinfectants to Italy and Spain.

Worldwide, about 900,000 people have been infected and over 44,000 have died, according to a tally kept by Johns Hopkins University, though the real figures are believed to be much higher because of testing shortages, differences in counting the dead and large numbers of mild cases that have gone unreported.

The U.S. recorded over 190,000 infections and more than 4,100 deaths.

In New York, at least 78,000 people have volunteered as medical reinforcements, according to state officials. The group includes recent retirees who are willing to go back to work, health care professionals who can take a break from their regular jobs and people between gigs.

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JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

**A body wrapped in plastic is prepared Tuesday to be loaded onto a refrigerated container truck used as a temporary morgue by medical workers at Brooklyn Hospital Center in New York.**

single day."

With New York on near-lockdown, the usually busy city streets are so empty that a single siren, to some, is no longer the easily ignored urban background noise.

"After 9/11, I remember we actually wanted to hear the sound of ambulances on our quiet streets because that meant there were survivors, but we didn't hear those sounds, and it was heartbreaking," said Meg Gifford, 61, a former Wall Streetter who lives on Manhattan's Upper East Side. "Today, I hear an ambulance on my strangely quiet street and my heart breaks, too."

The region rushed to set up extra hospital capacity at the mammoth Javits Convention Center, on a Navy hospital ship and in the indoor tennis center that hosts the U.S. Open.

In Southern California, officials reported that more than 50 residents of a nursing home east of Los Angeles have been infected and two have died. Cedar Mountain Post Acute Rehabilitation in Yucaipa has been told to assume that all of its patients have the

virus, health authorities said.

Even as the virus has slowed its growth in overwhelmed Italy and China, where it first emerged, hospitals in Spain and France are reaching their breaking points, and the U.S. and Britain are bracing for waves of desperately ill people.

"It feels like we are in a Third World country. We don't have enough masks, enough protective equipment, and by the end of the week we might be in need of more medication too," said Paris emergency worker Christophe Prudhomme.

Spain, which hit a record Wednesday of 864 deaths in one day, has boosted its hospital beds by 20%. Hotspots in Madrid and Catalonia have almost tripled their ICU capacity. Dozens of hotels across Spain have been turned into recovery rooms, and authorities are building field hospitals in sports centers, libraries and exhibition halls.

In Italy, with over 13,100 dead so far, the most of any country, morgues overflowed with bodies, caskets piled up in churches

and doctors were forced to decide which desperately ill patients would get a breathing machine.

The pressure is easing on hard-hit Italian cities like Bergamo and Brescia as the rate of new infections slows. Yet many Italians are still dying at home or in nursing homes because hospitals are overwhelmed and cannot get ventilators.

The strain facing some of the world's best health care systems has been aggravated by hospital budget cuts over the past decade in Italy, Spain, France and Britain. They have called in medical students, retired doctors and even laid-off flight attendants with first aid certification to help fight the virus, although all need re-training.

The medical staffing shortage has been exacerbated by the high numbers of infected personnel. In Italy alone, nearly 10,000 medical workers have been infected and more than 60 doctors have died.

China, where the outbreak began late last year, on Wednesday reported just 36 new COVID-19 cases.

## White House hesitant to order nationwide stay-at-home order

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Even as he warns of a grim few weeks ahead with tens of thousands of Americans likely killed by the new coronavirus, President Donald Trump is resisting issuing a national stay-at-home order to stem the spread of the disease.

Trump said earlier this week that he and members of his administration have discussed issuing a stay-at-home order but it was "pretty unlikely" for now. Then on Tuesday the White House offered "sobering" new projections that 100,000 to 240,000 Americans will likely succumb to the coronavirus even if current social distancing guidelines are

maintained.

Surgeon General Jerome Adams on Wednesday noted in a series of television interviews that the U.S. federalist system leaves much of the authority on how to properly respond to catastrophes to individual state governors and local officials.

"We trust the governors and the mayors to understand their people and understand whether or not they feel like they can trust the people in their states to make the right decisions," Adams said on ABC's "Good Morning America."

The White House's best-case projection assumes statewide stay-at-home orders, according to a senior administration official fa-

miliar with Trump's thinking and speaking on condition of anonymity. Trump, the official said, is a believer in federalism and that it is up to individual governors to set restrictions for their states. The official noted that states are being hit by the virus with varying degrees of severity and they are best able to adapt the policies for their specific situations.

More than 235 million people live in the 33 states where governors have declared statewide shelter-in-place orders or have recommended that residents stay home.

In other states — places like Texas, Florida and Pennsylvania, among others — governors have resisted state-level decisions, but

some localities have declared residents should stay at home. Those types of local orders cover Houston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Orlando and St. Louis, along with dozens of other counties and cities.

Still, Trump — who has conducted long, near-daily briefings on his administration's response to the virus outbreak over the last three weeks — has been reluctant so far to use his bully pulpit to urge governors to issue orders that would help effectively create a national quarantine.

The deference has come even as his administration has issued guidelines that have urged Americans to work from home if possible, cancel on-site learn-

ing at schools, and avoid large gatherings.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican, said Tuesday that Trump's task force has not recommended he issue a state-wide quarantine order.

"If they do, obviously that would be something that carries a lot of weight with me," said DeSantis, a Trump ally who leads one of the largest states yet to issue state-wide orders.

Rep. Donna Shalala, a Florida Democrat, said in an interview Wednesday that Trump's response has been "fragmented, weak and uneven." She called on him to press governors for a unified approach to help stem the spread of the disease.

## VIRUS OUTBREAK

# Coast Guard: Cruise ships must keep ill onboard

By FREIDA FRISARO  
AND ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON  
*Associated Press*

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The U.S. Coast Guard has directed all cruise ships to prepare to treat any sick passengers and crew on board while being sequestered "indefinitely" offshore during the coronavirus pandemic.

The new rules require daily updates on each ship's coronavirus caseload for vessels in U.S. waters, and come with a stiff warning: Any foreign-flagged vessels "that loiter beyond U.S. territorial seas" should try first to medically evacuate the very sick to those countries instead.

Many of South Florida's cruise ships are registered in the Bahamas, where hospital capacity is limited and people are still recovering from last year's Hurricane Dorian.

The rules, which apply to any vessel carrying more than 50 people, were issued in a March 29 safety bulletin signed by Coast Guard Rear Admiral E.C. Jones, whose district includes Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Puerto Rico.

Dozens of cruise ships are either lined up at Port Miami and Port Everglades or waiting offshore due to the coronavirus pandemic. Most have only crew aboard, but Carnival Corp., which owns nine cruise lines with a total

of 105 ships, notified the SEC Tuesday that it has more than 6,000 passengers still at sea, on three ships that will soon arrive in Fort Civitavecchia, Italy, and Southampton, England, as well as Fort Lauderdale.

Federal, state and local officials have been negotiating over whether Carnival's Holland America cruise ships, the Zaandam and Rotterdam, would be allowed to dock at Port Everglades this week. But the company's Coral Princess is coming, too, with what that ship's medical center called a higher than normal number of people with flu-like symptoms.

Two of four deaths on the Zaandam were blamed on COVID-19 and nine people have tested positive for the novel coronavirus, the company said. At least 190 more reported symptoms. More than 300 Americans are on the Zaandam and Rotterdam.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said Tuesday that the state's health-care system is stretched too thin to take on the Zaandam's coronavirus caseload. "Just to drop people off at the place where we're having the highest number of cases right now just doesn't make a whole lot of sense," DeSantis said.

President Donald Trump said later that he would speak with his fellow Republican. "They're dying on the ship," Trump said.



WILFREDO LEE/AP

**Cruise ships are docked at Port Miami on Tuesday. The U.S. Coast Guard has directed all cruise ships to prepare to treat any sick passengers and crew on board while being sequestered.**

"I'm going to do what's right. Not only for us, but for humanity."

Passengers expressed their frustrations to The Associated Press on Wednesday. Andrea Anderson, stuck with her husband, Rob, on the Zaandam, coughed her way through a phone interview. Asked what she would say to Florida's governor, she said,

"How would he feel if his mother was on this ship? Would he still be saying, 'no they can't dock'?"

Under normal conditions, when a passenger or crew member become too ill for the ship's medical team to care for, they call the Coast Guard to provide a medical evacuation to an onshore hospital. Under the new rules, sick passen-

gers would be sequestered indefinitely on board.

For most people, the virus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough, that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness.

## VA transfers veterans from New Orleans to Mississippi

By NIKKI WENTLING  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Veterans are being transferred from the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in New Orleans to facilities in Mississippi as coronavirus cases in southeast Louisiana continue to grow.

The New Orleans VA Medical Center had tested 258 positive cases of the virus Tuesday, more than triple the number reported by the New York Harbor Health-care System, which had the next-largest number of cases. New York Harbor serves Manhattan and Brooklyn and reported 72 cases Tuesday.

Of the 258 patients who tested positive in New Orleans, 32 were admitted to the hospital. Nine veterans died at the hospital in a two-day span last week, the VA reported. They were veterans in their 60s, 70s and 80s.

Because of the concentration of cases in New Orleans, the facility decided to preemptively transfer some patients to the Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System in Biloxi, Miss., and the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, Miss., said Phil Walls, a spokesman for the New Orleans hospital.

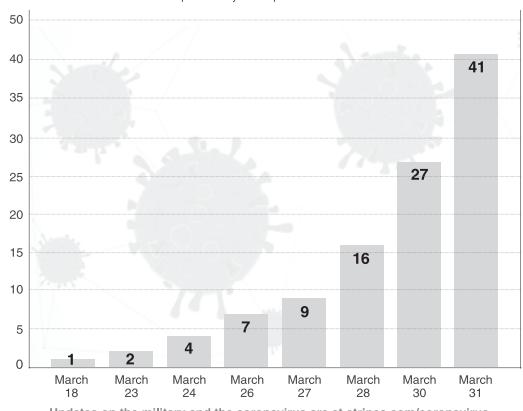
The Biloxi hospital, about 90 miles from New Orleans, had reported no coronavirus cases as of Tuesday. Three veterans had tested positive in Jackson, which is about 200 miles away.

The patients being transferred do not have coronavirus and are not under intensive care.

"These moves will ensure the veterans medical center in New Orleans maintains enough capacity to accommodate exist-

### Number of veteran deaths from coronavirus

Information provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs



SOURCES: Department of Veterans Affairs

NOGA AM-HAW/Stars and Stripes

ing and future COVID-19 patients," Walls said.

Louisiana has experienced a sharp increase in coronavirus cases. The state reported more than 5,000 positive cases Tuesday and 239 deaths. Gov. John Bel

Edwards extended a stay-at-home order for the state through April 30.

Before the first case was diagnosed at the New Orleans VA Medical Center, hospital leadership established a command center to coordinate the response across

southeast Louisiana, Walls said. The facility also established a negative airflow ward for patients with coronavirus in order to prevent contamination from escaping.

As with VA facilities nationwide, the New Orleans hospital prohibited visitors, canceled elective surgeries and is screening patients and employees who enter the facility.

Walls said he couldn't speculate as to why the hospital had reported more positive cases than other VA locations.

The VA reported 1,347 positive cases across the country Tuesday. Of those, 313 patients had been admitted to VA hospitals.

Forty-one veterans had died — an increase of 14 from Monday. The newly reported deaths were in New Orleans, the New York boroughs of the Bronx and Brooklyn; Indianapolis; San Francisco; Wichita, Kan.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Minneapolis; and Madison, Wis. The veterans ranged in age from their 50s to their 80s.

The VA operates 172 medical centers and treats more than 9 million veterans, many of whom are thought to be at higher risk for the virus because of their age and underlying health conditions.

VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said this week he sent mobile units to New Orleans, as well as New York City, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The units provide counseling to veterans and help them coordinate their health care.

wentling.nikki@stripes.com  
Twitter: @nikkiwentling

## VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

# Ohio woman lost 3 family members, urges staying home

Associated Press

**COLUMBUS** — An Ohio woman whose brother, mother and father died from the coronavirus pleaded for people to stay at home and follow social distancing guidelines, while President Donald Trump issued a disaster declaration for Ohio and ordered federal help for local recovery efforts. A GoFundMe page has been created to support the family.

The Health Department said that it has received Ohio's allotment of personal protective equipment from the national strategic stockpile. That includes more than 100,000 gowns, nearly 500,000 gloves and more than 670,000 masks. But Health Director Dr. Amy Acton said the supplies don't meet the state's needs and urged that supplies be conserved and new items donated.

### Puerto Rico

**SAN JUAN** — Puerto Rico on Wednesday closed its fifth police station in a week, raising concerns about the U.S. territory's ability to respond to the coronavirus pandemic as officers accused the government of exposing one of the largest police departments in a U.S. jurisdiction to COVID-19.

More than 150 officers are under quarantine as dozens await test results on an island that has reported 11 deaths and more than 280 confirmed cases amid a mounting curfew that has shuttered beaches, parks and nonessential businesses.

"It's not fair that the government is dragging its feet," said Gregorio Matias, vice president of a local police union who demanded more protective equipment. "What do they want? To be left without police officers?"

The first police station to close is located in the popular tourist town of Rincon, where the 42-year-old wife of one officer recently died from COVID-19. Also shuttered are police stations in Aguas Buenas, Caimito, Moca and San German.

### Connecticut

**HARTFORD** — Connecticut Children's Medical Center furloughed 400 workers due to the coronavirus outbreak, which has caused elective and other surgeries to be delayed and the number of overall patients to decline, according to officials with the Hartford-based medical system.

The furloughs are for 60 days and affect about 14% of the system's workforce of 2,800, The Hartford Courant reported. Medical center officials expect all the furloughed employees to return to their jobs, maybe by early June.

Patient volumes have ultimate-

ly declined by about half, costing the medical center \$7.5 million to \$9 million a month, said James Shmerling, president and chief executive officer at Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

The medical center has had about a dozen patients with COVID-19 symptoms, far from the volume at other hospitals. Officials said that they would accept children from other hospitals to help them free beds to treat adults with the coronavirus.

### Missouri

**CUBA** — An eastern Missouri man was charged with making a terrorist threat after he allegedly coughed toward customers and wrote COVID on a cooler at a Dollar Tree store.

John Swaller, 33, of Cuba, was charged Tuesday and was being held on \$25,000 bail in the Crawford County jail.

An employee of the store in Cuba called police because the man was intentionally coughing toward customers and had breathed on a cooler before writing COVID on the inside of the cooler, police said.

Swaller's father told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch that his son doesn't have COVID-19. Cuba police Chief Doug Shelton said that investigators don't know if Swaller has the coronavirus, but officers used protective gear while taking him to jail.

### Pennsylvania

**HARRISBURG** — Pennsylvania State Police will no longer respond in person to some types of calls as the agency tries to limit troopers' contact with the public and slow the spread of the coronavirus, officials announced Wednesday.

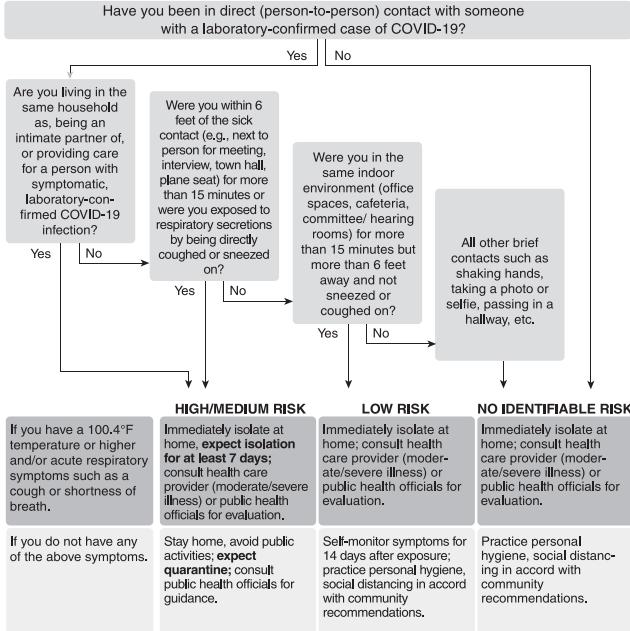
Calls for lost-and-found, littering, identity theft and general requests to speak to a trooper are among the calls that will now be resolved with "limited or no-scene response," state police said in a news release. The new policy took effect Wednesday and will be in place until further notice.

State police said that troopers will continue to respond to emergencies.

"To enhance social distancing and keep our personnel and the public safe and healthy, we will begin collecting information via telephone for incidents that do not require an in-person response from a trooper," said Col. Robert Evanchick, the state police commissioner. "This change affects only a limited number of call types, and the public can be confident that the PSP has the personnel, equipment and plans in place to respond to emergencies and other critical incidents."

## Weighing risk and response to coronavirus exposure

Members of Congress and their employees, who often interact with the public and work in close quarters, were given the following guidance to evaluate their risk for contracting COVID-19. It was distributed by Congress' in-house medical staff, and is based on guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Updates on the military and the coronavirus are at [stripes.com/coronavirus](http://stripes.com/coronavirus)

SOURCE: AP

NOCs Am-Res Stars and Stripes

### Tennessee

**SEVIERVILLE** — Tennessee officials want tourism businesses to stop soliciting tourists in order to stop the spread of the coronavirus, officials announced.

The mayors of five cities in Sevier County urged leisure businesses to halt guests through mid-April, the Sevierville Police Department said in a post on Facebook.

WBIR-TV reported that just a few weeks ago, tourists packed Sevier County even after some big attractions closed down and the public was told to practice social distancing.

### Texas

**AUSTIN** — More than two dozen University of Texas students have tested positive for the coronavirus after taking a spring break trip to Mexico, public health officials said.

A group of about 70 people who are in their 20s took a chartered plane to Cabo San Lucas about 10 days ago, the Austin Public Health Department said Tuesday. So far, 28 people in the group have tested positive for COVID-19, the illness linked to the coronavirus, and dozens more are being monitored, the health department said.

The department said that four people with confirmed cases did not have any symptoms.

"The virus often hides in the healthy and is given to those who are at grave risk of being hospitalized or dying," Austin-Travis County Interim Health Authority Dr. Mark Escott said. "While younger people have less risk for complications, they are not immune from severe illness and death from COVID-19."

### Vermont

**MONTPELIER** — State officials in Vermont are ordering large retailers that sell critical items such as food and prescription drugs to stop the in-person sale of nonessential products.

Whenever possible, stores such as Walmart, Target and Costco must stop the sale of nonessential items and require online or telephone ordering, delivery and curbside pickup.

"Large 'big box' retailers generate significant shopping traffic by virtue of their size and the variety of goods offered in a single location," Agency of Commerce and Community Development Secretary Lindsay Kurrel said Tuesday. "This volume of shopping traffic significantly increases the risk of further spread of the virus if it's widely spread."

this dangerous virus to Vermonters and the viability of Vermont's health care system."

The items that cannot be sold in person include clothing, consumer electronics, books, furniture and sporting equipment.

### Wisconsin

**MADISON** — Wisconsin's governor said Wednesday that he will use National Guard soldiers to staff unstaffed polling sites in next week's presidential primary.

Local election clerks across the state have said that poll workers are quitting in droves out of fears of contracting the coronavirus during Tuesday's election, which also features a state Supreme Court race and hundreds of local races. More than 100 municipalities have reported that they lack enough people to staff even one polling site.

Democratic Gov. Tony Evers told a federal judge in a filing that he will use members of the Wisconsin Army National Guard to help as poll workers, but that even that move likely won't fill all staffing needs.

The court filing said that the Guard was determining how many soldiers it can make available in each county.

# STARS AND STRIPES

# MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Celebrating  
Month of the  
Military Child

## I am from the fallen

By Tuana Turnbull,

4th Grade, Humphreys West Elementary School

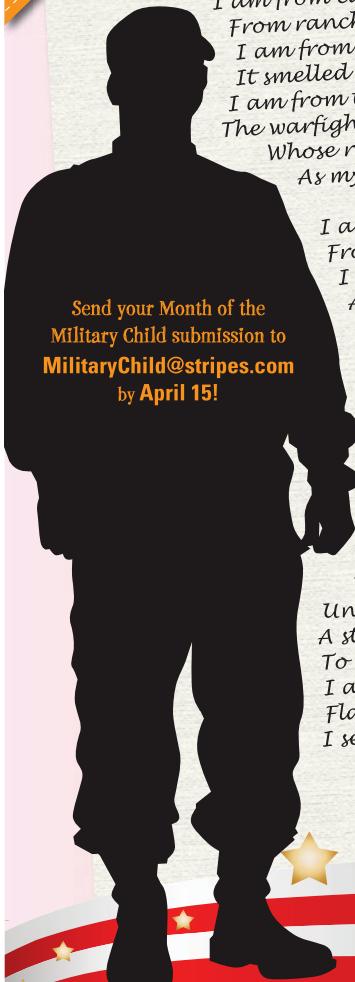
I am from campsites,  
From ranches and Disney World.  
I am from the Gold Star under a hero's watchful eye,  
It smelled like the Home of the Brave  
I am from the fallen  
The warfighter  
Whose respect and sacrifice I remember  
As my own.

I am from the white and black,  
From Nesli and Lyle.  
I am from the honorable families  
And the gatherings of  
remembrance,  
From "Stay aware!" and "I love you."  
I am from the past  
With a piano future  
And ten songs on those ebony and ivory keys I can  
play myself.

I'm from the breeze and the pastel,  
Bluebonnets and mountains.  
From the memories lost to his courage.  
To the jar used to keep my family.  
Under my bed was a bugle spilling taps.  
A star of gold  
To drift beneath my dreams.  
I am from those moments -  
Flashed before my dreams.  
I see a leaf falling from the family tree.



Send your Month of the  
Military Child submission to  
[MilitaryChild@stripes.com](mailto:MilitaryChild@stripes.com)  
by April 15!



Check out more  
military children stories at:  
[militarychild.stripes.com](http://militarychild.stripes.com)





## Celebrating Month of the Military Child

You can have a lot of time moving, but it still comes with a price. I didn't want to move from Virginia originally because I knew I had to leave my best friends J'Kayla, Xavier, Joshua, and Collin. I also knew I had to leave my family behind. I also ended up moving to another state and school. I didn't want to leave my house behind because I had a dog named Max. He was born at the end of January and surgery April 5, 2018 and that house was the last house he lived in anymore.

Also remember you can have a phenomenal time moving yet it also comes with some consequences. Also don't let moving anger you, stress you, or make you sad. You can have a loving life.

Sometimes I love being a military child. Most of the time when I travel, I see incredible things. I live in base now. Yet when I move I miss out on my family's milestones, when I say family, I mean my aunts, uncles, cousins, grandmas, and grandpas. I am still amazed when I move.

Most military kids live on bases or off bases. I'm going on bases because most of the time there is less stress. If you don't need an adult? There are guards that are there if you need help, so don't get hurt! One place that I go to is parks with my friends and family; I love to live on bases!

When you move, sometimes you go to places that you can't even imagine you would go to! I went to Costa Rica and I was so happy! I went to Spain and I was so happy! I went to my friend's birthday party and I was so happy! I went to my brother's birthday, in Spain, means arm'd I really cool! I also went to Virginia and made TONS of friends! I'll feel good to go to the U.S. Then I moved to Spain, and found out a lot of information about Spain. I didn't know that Spain was this MAGNIFICENT!!

Even though moving is cool, I DEFINITELY do not like moving out on our adventures. Over the summer grandma (Mama) and I went to Spain and I was so happy! I went into their hot tub and have snow cones. We also get to do fun activities. It's awesome except when you move out. It's not so awesome. I also HATE when I move on my milestones growing up. My mom and dad always had a DODDAD party for me during out on birthdays. When I want to hang out with my cousins, I can't because I'm all the way across America!

Some days it's AMAZING to be a military child! Yet there are some days that you just want to be a regular child. Being a military child can be rough, like missing out on family activities. You can still have fun though, like living on base and traveling to AMAZING places! Being in the military is like a roller coaster!

- Jeremy Morse

Being a military child is a different lifestyle than many other children's way of life. I get to go to many places and experience many different cultures. Still, there are difficulties; the biggest one is having to move. Even through the hardships I have a great time. It is cool to travel to new places. Other times I just want to stay in one place and stay there. I always say "No pasta noda," when I see it come out of place. The word "noda" means "no big name." For example, one time an unleashed ferocious dog was growling at me and the owner said "no pasta noda." In Guam, another place I have lived, they have a language called Chamorro. I can remember one time, "Hafa Adai," which means hello. I have had offers to learn another language or not going to survive much longer. Only the oldest people know the language.

There are many different places to go and explore! One place I love is Barcelona. I

want to go to many more places and experience many more cultures.

- Alexis Rice

have seen many buildings like Sagrada Familia, Casa Mila and Park Guell. Another place I thought was amazing was Paris. We got to see the Louvre with so many paintings. The Eiffel Tower was wonderful both day and night. The pastries there were also delicious Portuguese pastries. There were breathtaking views of the hills around Paris. I have also been to Italy, Spain, Germany, and France. Germany over spring break.

The hardest thing for me is moving. You have to pack up almost all of your stuff. Then, you have to go on long flights that mess up your sleep system. Next, you arrive at a place where you do not know anyone. You will also have an overwhelming amount of stuff to take care of.

Being a military child has struggles, but also a lot of benefits. There are lots of great adventures, but there are many challenges. There are many cool things you get to experience, but sometimes I wish I didn't have to move so much.

- Carrie Schonefeld

**Check out all of our Month of the Military Child submissions at [militarychild.stripes.com](http://militarychild.stripes.com)**

D oDEA kids are quite different than regular kids and military kids. I get to see a lot of things that in the states we don't get to see. We get to see a lot of different cultures, eat a lot of different foods, and experience a lot more. I am always there one who has to be goodie bags for friends, because as a child we have to stay in one place for long periods of time. Unlike military children who move every four years, I will probably stay in Spain almost twelve years or until I graduate from high school. Overall, I enjoy being a DoDEA kid because it is a good place to live.

Living in a foreign country and countries have great positives. First, I can see a lot more of the world than I would have if I was living in the states. Being in Spain is really close to landmasses. Flights are also a lot easier to get to. It is also easier to travel to other countries. We do not have to leave the country to explore anything. I have been to Spain, Portugal, Germany, Scotland, England, and more. The reason for being able to visit all these places is because they are in all close proximity. There are also many more opportunities to travel. Another interesting is the different cultural experiences like Festa, Carnaval, or any other special holiday in Spain. When hearing a different language all around you, I have been able to appreciate the culture around me. It is quite interesting what Spain has to offer.

Another plus is that you get to meet a lot of people. Some come from multiple countries and backgrounds. You have to meet people at your school unless you leave your home area. You also learn new hobbies and find something you might love to do from meeting new people. You can learn more culture and other people's beliefs and backgrounds.

One of the best parts about being a military child is meeting your friends leave. Once you stay in one place, often you see your friends leave. It's very sad to see your friends go, and it happens all the time with everyone being a military kid. You barely get to know them, and if they extend it's a lot harder when they leave. Again you also have to stay in the same place for a while. You meet lots of people, but it's not always the same. It's sad but you get used to it. One day I hope I don't have to leave for the last time.

Being a DoDEA kid has pros and cons, from ones I listed to even more. You just have to experience it to see it all. Yes, it might seem good at first being able to live overseas or travel to different countries, but it's not always good to see your friends leave to see someone else. In the end, if you want to make the sacrifices, you can decide, or your parents can. Probably your parents.

- Brandon Luna

H i, my name is Alwen. Having an opportunity to be a military child to me is my explanation of paradise. Even if there are many challenges of being a military child, I feel so specific, deployment, leaving friends, leaving your comfort zone, and many other things. The main benefits are being able to travel and learn about new cultures. But even with all of the challenges ahead of me I'm ready to take them on and still be able to enjoy my life as a military child.

I love fresh starts. I'm pretty sure everyone does. Just like moving to a new house, in a new place, and meeting new friends. It's just like starting a new life. Settling in is what a good start is. I'm excited to start a new life in a new place. I'm excited to meet great people. I'm excited to meet everyone that I don't think it's terrible, but it's not as bad as you think! There's opportunity to just like taking a vacation around the world!

Traveling around the world is like eating or ocean getting wet. I do learning new cultures and trying new things. I do not like to travel alone. I do not like to travel alone. You get to meet foreign people and see new places. In my opinion I'd rather do that than stay in the same place forever. That's why I love being a military child.

Do you think life as a military child is perfect? Well it's not. Leaving your friends who used to be your best friends is hard. Leaving your home is hard. It makes you feel bad. Once you move it's like a replay! You have to find a new house too! If that makes your explanation of perfect, I would have to see who you call imperfect.

Life as a military child has its ups and downs! But the great thing are the new experiences.

- Alwen Dedics

B eing a military child is a very important experience. I love to travel to new places and start a new life. When I move to new places, experiencing new weather is so much fun! I love traveling storms and hot dry weather. There are lots of fun things about being a military child but leaving my DOD is a hard experience. After all these fun and not fun things about being a military child, it is still rather enjoyable.

As a military child I am so lucky to be able to travel. Some people don't get the chance to travel, so I am so lucky to travel to new places and cultures. Getting a new house is so much fun, getting a new room and neighborhood! I can't imagine not having all these fun times like I do now! So lucky to live like this!

Some people may think weather isn't important to a child. I think it's the opposite. Weather is important to a child. I am so happy to move from Spain to Japan like me it would be such a fun experience. In Spain it is hot and so is it in Japan, that is not a big difference. Spain clearly doesn't rain that much but in Japan it has storms and typhoons all the time. When it is not stormy it is hot and dry. In my opinion weather is a very important part of moving. I still miss the extreme thunder and rain storms that we experienced in Italy.

After reading about all these good things about being a military child let's get to a bad one. A bad thing is leaving your best friends. It always seems like you will find someone else to be your best friend. I am so lucky to have found a friend like me. I feel so lucky that you will still and you'll love them just as much as your last one. If it feels really hard at the beginning, it is an emotional experience but it's not because you'll always have someone to talk to on FaceTime! I know it is a hard experience because I experienced it too! I promise you will be fine.

I hope you learned about what it is like to be a military child and its ups and down. I am but also very harsh, this use all my opinion, but you may think differently. As a restatement traveling is a positive, the weather is a positive and leaving your best friend is a major negative. It is a very hard but at the same time the best experience of your life.

- Parisa Bertram

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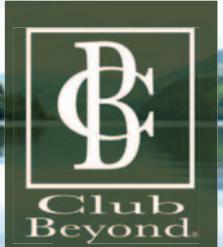
- Ansbach
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- Grafenwoehr/Vilseck
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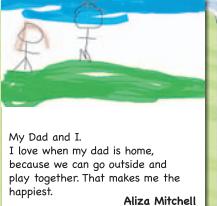
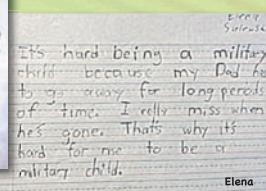
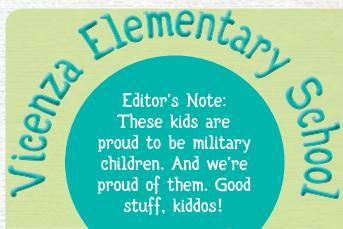
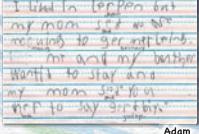
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## Celebrating Month of the Military Child

**Editor's Note:**  
Ms. Short is proud  
of her hardworking and  
talented students.  
Keep working hard,  
guys!

# Spangdahlem Elementary School



## FACES

# 20 years of gimmick-free cooking

America's Test Kitchen succeeds by evolving with viewers' tastes

By LYNN ELBER  
Associate Press

**T**here are cooking shows hosted by celebrities, some of whom may know a frittata, and shows that feature arrogant chefs and bad cooks. There's an upcoming digital series in which blindfolded chefs get smacked in the face with a dish and compete to identify and make it.

Then there's the gimmick-free "America's Test Kitchen," in its 20th season of expertly guiding viewers through well-vetted steps for savory sauces, perfectly grilled fish and flaky pie crusts, among the 1,000-plus recipes it has demystified to date. Also on the menu are reviews of a range of ingredients, from anchovies to baking chocolate to pasta, as well as cookware.

No need to sample more than a half-dozen styles of yogurt, including Australian and Bulgarian, because "America's Test Kitchen" has done it for us. Being practical, not trendy, has its benefits: It boasts of being the longest-running U.S. cooking series. (Japan's "Today's Cooking," which debuted in 1957, has it beat internationally.)

The show's unwavering focus explains its success, said Jack Bishop, chief content officer for "America's Test Kitchen" and on-screen host of the product compartment segments.

"There's a lot of food content on television and on video platforms, especially in either the competition genre or in the travel genre," Bishop said. With the public TV

series, "it's first and foremost the content and the utility of the show, that it helps people cook."

After "America's Test Kitchen" airs on PBS stations, weekend traffic surges to its website as viewers decide, "hey, I want to make that recipe," he said.

The average weekly audience is 2.25 million, holding steady and even climbing a percentage point or two in the past two years. Meanwhile, the show has expanded its reach — and appeal — online, with a YouTube subscription channel whose audience includes cooking-curious young men who hadn't discovered the series on TV, according to the America's Test Kitchen company.

The company publishes the "Cook's Illustrated" and "Cook's Country" magazines, which are ad-free like the public TV series.

The series "is public television personified. It's all about lifelong learning, being educated while entertained" and empowering viewers to develop their passion and skills, said Cynthia Fenneman, president and CEO of American Public Television, which distributes "America's Test Kitchen" to public TV stations nationwide.

Recipes are tested dozens of times by more than 50 full-time cooks who are aided by a panel of some 40,000 home cooks. The goal is to create a reliable blueprint that can be followed by viewers, with the average cost of testing for one recipe about \$10,000, according to America's Test Kitchen.

It all happens in the vast, industrial-looking kitchen in Boston



KEVIN WHIT, AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN/AP  
"America's Test Kitchen" host Bridget Lancaster, left, and Chief Creative Officer Jack Bishop chat on the cooking show, which is marking its 20th year on PBS, is starting to draw younger viewers online.

seen on TV. Taping on this season's 26 episodes were completed before the coronavirus epidemic forced a widespread shutdown of TV and movie production.

A key ingredient for the show is the chemistry between the hosts-cooks, Bridget Lancaster and Julia Collin Davison, and the ensemble of fellow test cooks and Bishop. The vibe is friendly cooperation, not culinary one-upmanship.

"All the research we do about the shows indicates people like to just turn it on and spend time with us," Bishop said. "We actually like each other. I've done the

shows since day one. I've known Bridget since 1998, Julia since 1999, and [kitchen equipment expert Adam Ried] since, I think, 1995."

Christopher Kimball, who founded "America's Test Kitchen" in 1980, hosted the program until a contract dispute led him and the company to part ways in 2016.

There are talking points but no scripts or prompts, Bishop said, which means that viewers are getting accomplished chefs and other experts sharing their knowledge in a relaxed way.

Perhaps the biggest change over the years can be found in the recipes themselves. When "America's Test Kitchen" launched, there was an emphasis on traditional family fare that mom or grandma made. That interest has all but evaporated, Bishop said, and people instead are choosing to re-create the dishes they enjoy when eating out.

"They want to make Thai food, Mexican food, Italian food, and do it well. So the recipe selection has really evolved over the 20 years of the show and reflects the audience tastes," he said.

## Shut-in TV viewers drive up ratings for 'Let's Make a Deal'

From wire services

Instead of watching their own finances crater, shut-in television viewers turned in to the game show "Let's Make a Deal" in record numbers last week.

TV programs across the dial recorded superlatives last week with a captive audience of millions of Americans told to stay home because of the coronavirus. Few were as interesting as the newfound fervor for CBS' "Let's Make a Deal," which recorded its most-watched deal week since the show was brought back 11 years ago with Wayne Brady as host, the Nielsen company said.

Cost-conscious viewers also gave "The Price Is Right," now hosted by Drew Carey, its biggest audience in four years, Nielsen said.

It was also a terrific week for television uber-producer Dick Wolf, whose Windy City-based trilogy of dramas dominates NBC's lineup. Excluding special crossover episodes, "Chicago Fire" recorded its most popular episode in six years, while "Chicago Med" and "Chicago PD" had their largest audiences in four years, Nielsen said.

The Wolf-produced dramas "FBI" and

"FBI: Most Wanted" on CBS did have a crossover last week, leading both relatively new shows to their highest ratings ever.

Nielsen hasn't computed the numbers for last week yet, but during the previous week, television usage overall was up 18 percent over the same week a year ago.

Increased usage was even more striking in Nielsen's measurements of streaming. During the week of March 16, Nielsen said that U.S. consumers streamed 156.1 billion minutes of content. That was more than double the 71.3 billion minutes streamed during the same week a year earlier, and up from the 116.4 billion minutes for the week of March 2 this year.

Twenty-nine percent of the streaming two weeks ago was Netflix programming, and 20% was YouTube, Nielsen said.

### Rihanna donates \$1 million to coronavirus response

Rihanna's Clara Lionel Foundation is donating \$1 million in grants toward COVID-19 response — a number that is being matched by Jay-Z's Shawn Carter Foundation.

The combined \$2 million will support

undocumented workers, the children of front-line health workers and first responders and the incarcerated, elderly and homeless populations in New York City and Los Angeles.

Last week, the Clara Lionel Foundation donated \$5 million that went food banks, testing, healthcare worker training, virus prevention and distribution of supplies.

### Rowling starts Harry Potter At Home for housebound families

J.K. Rowling is hoping a dash of Harry Potter will help families confined to their homes during the coronavirus pandemic.

The author has launched an online initiative, [harrypotterathome.com](http://harrypotterathome.com), which features quizzes, games and other activities. For the month of April, Rowling also has partnered with the audio publisher-distributor Audible and the library e-book supplier OverDrive for free audio and digital editions of the first Potter book in the series.

Rowling's British and American print publishers, Bloomsbury and Scholastic, will contribute materials to the Potter web site and to their own websites.

### Other news

■ The Elton John-led starry benefit concert that featured Billie Eilish, Mariah Carey and Alicia Keys on Sunday has raised nearly \$8 million to battle the coronavirus. The musicians performed from their homes for the hourlong event that aired on Fox and iHeartMedia radio stations. The money will go to Feeding America and First Responders Children's Foundation.

■ The Country Music Association announced Tuesday that it will not hold its annual CMA Fest in Nashville this year. The festival, which has been held for more than 40 years, is held in June and features several stages over a four-day weekend.

■ Star Wars actor Andrew Jack has died in Britain as a result of the coronavirus, his agent said on Wednesday. He was 72. The actor, who also worked as a dialect coach, died in a hospital in Surrey on Tuesday, Jack's agent Jill McCullough said in a statement. Jack appeared in "Star Wars: Episode VIII - The Last Jedi" as General Emmatt, as well as "Solo: A Star Wars Story" and "Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens."


**STARS AND STRIPES**
**OPINION**

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher

Lt. Col. Sean Klimek, Europe commander  
 Lt. Col. Richard McClinic, Pacific commander  
 Caroline E. Miller, Europe Business Operations  
 Joshua M. Lashbrook, Pacific Chief of Staff

**EDITORIAL**

Terry Leonard, Editor

leonard@stripes.com  
 Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
 reid.robert@stripes.com

Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content  
 croley.tina@stripes.com

Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation  
 moores\_sean@stripes.com

Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital  
 gromelski.joe@stripes.com

**BUREAU STAFF**
**Europe/Mideast**

Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief  
 slavin.erik@stripes.com  
 +49(0)631.3615.9350; DSN (314)583.9350

**Pacific**

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief  
 kidd.aaron@stripes.com  
 +81(0)42.252.2511 ext. 88380; DSN (315)227.7380

**Washington**

Joseph Caciullo, Washington Bureau Chief  
 caciullo.joseph@stripes.com  
 (+1)(202)886-0033

Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
 bowers.brian@stripes.com

**CIRCULATION**
**Mideast**

Robert Reissmann, Mideast Circulation Manager  
 robert.w.reissmann.raf@mail.mil  
 DSN circulation@stripes.com  
 DSN (314)583.9111

**Europe**

Karen Lewis, Community Engagement Manager  
 lewis.karen@stripes.com  
 memberservices@stripes.com  
 +49(0)631.3615.9090; DSN (314)583.9090

**Pacific**

Mari Mori, customerhelp@stripes.com  
 +81-3 2085.3171; DSN (315)227.7333

**CONTACT US**

**Washington**  
 tel. (+1)(202)886.0003  
 633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3050

**Reader letters**

letters@stripes.com

**Additional contacts**

stripes.com/contactus

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Stars and Stripes (U.SPS 0417900) is published weekly (except Dec. 26 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please address changes in delivery to Stars and Stripes, Inc., P.O. Box 45002, APO AP 96301-5002.

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**BY MAX BOOT**  
*The Washington Post*

I have always been a strong supporter of the U.S. armed forces, because I believe they are needed to safeguard our freedom and prosperity in a dangerous world. But even hawks like me cannot be blind to the prevalence of "black swan" events in the past 20 years.

The biggest national security crises we have faced in the 21st century have been the 9/11 attacks and the subsequent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the 2008 financial meltdown, the 2016 Russian attack on our presidential election, global warming and now the coronavirus. That there have been so many emergencies that fall outside our traditional "national security" parameters calls into question whether we are spending our \$738 billion defense budget on the right priorities.

The closest we came to a crisis necessitating a military response was the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. But even then most of the work of safeguarding the United States fell not to the armed forces but to the intelligence community, the FBI, local police forces and the newly organized Department of Homeland Security. And while our armed forces could kill lots of terrorists, they could not bring lasting peace or stability to Iraq and Afghanistan. That's a nation-building mission for which our government is ill-equipped.

The 2008 financial crash had nothing to do with the military — yet, if not contained, it could easily have turned into another Great Depression that would have shaken the world order to its foundations. Global warming is an even bigger crisis, yet it, too, has no military solution. Indeed, because the Defense Department is the nation's biggest consumer of energy, using 85 million barrels of fuel in fiscal 2018, it is actually exacerbating the problem.

The 2016 Russian interference in our

election may have altered the course of history by helping to elect President Donald Trump, but there is no military response to this attack, either. We are not going to drop a bomb on Vladimir Putin's head, even though he is a far bigger threat to our democracy than Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani was. The steps we need to take to safeguard our political system from foreign interference are outside the purview of the military, even of the U.S. Cyber Command.

Now we are battling a pandemic that by Monday had already killed more Americans than died on 9/11 — and that is expected to kill more Americans than died in all U.S. wars since 1945. The Army Corps of Engineers (whose workforce is 98% civilian) is building hospitals, the Defense Logistics Agency is buying 8,000 ventilators, the Navy is deploying two hospital ships, and the Army is sending three field hospitals — but those contributions, while valuable, will not come close to turning the tide. By continuing to train and operate in close quarters, the armed forces may actually help spread the disease. (The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt is having a particularly severe outbreak among its crew.) In the present crisis, as one public health expert noted, we need N95 masks, not F-35 fighter aircraft.

Even when it comes to traditional combat operations, the infrastructure of our military may be outdated. In a 2019 Foreign Affairs article, Christian Brose, a former staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, warned: "A military made up of small numbers of large, heavily manned, and hard-to-replace systems will not survive on future battlefields, where swarms of intelligent machines will deliver violence at a greater volume and higher velocity than ever before." That's a big problem, because we are pouring vast amounts of money into manned ships, air-

craft, armored vehicles and other "legacy" systems that may be death traps on a modern battlefield against high-tech foes.

Some in the Pentagon understand that we can no longer afford business as usual. The Marine commandant, Gen. David Berger, issued a "planning guidance" last year that said: "We cannot afford to retain outdated policies, doctrine, organizations or force development strategies. ... What served us well yesterday may not today, and may not in the future." Berger advocates shifting the Marines' focus from the Middle East to the Pacific and from large-scale amphibious assaults to more dispersed operations by smaller units.

This is a significant departure for the Marine Corps, but it is still safely in the realm of conventional military operations. What we really need is a more radical rethink of the whole concept of "national security." It never made any sense, as Trump's 2021 budget had initially proposed, to increase spending on nuclear weapons by \$7 billion while cutting Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funding by \$1.2 billion. Or to create an unnecessary Space Force out of the U.S. Air Force while eliminating the vitally important directorate of global health by folding it into another office within the National Security Council.

Instead of pouring more money into the Pentagon, we need to develop new capacities to combat foreign disinformation, transition away from carbon fuels and stop the spread of pandemics. Those are more pressing priorities than a military attack from China, Russia, Iran or North Korea, and if we don't do a better job of addressing these threats, the pain we are feeling during the coronavirus outbreak may augur even greater catastrophes to come.

Washington Post columnist Max Boot is the Jeane Kirkpatrick senior fellow for national security studies at the Council on Foreign Relations and author of *The Road Not Taken: Edward Lansdale and the American Tragedy in Vietnam*.

## High court can't halt its time-sensitive work

**BY ASHWIN PHATAK**  
*Specialist to The Washington Post*

The Supreme Court was scheduled to hear blockbuster arguments in three cases this week concerning efforts to obtain President Donald Trump's financial records, but because of the coronavirus pandemic, the court canceled these arguments for the time being. That was understandable. What would not be understandable is if the court delays resolution of these cases beyond the end of its term in June.

Two of the cases concern a set of congressional subpoenas for various financial records concerning Trump, his family and his businesses. The House sought these documents as part of its investigation into whether new legislation is necessary on a variety of issues — from presidential conflicts of interest to questionable banking practices to foreign interference in our elections. Trump has challenged these subpoenas in court.

Importantly, these subpoenas are exceptionally time-sensitive. Congressional terms are two years long, and the current term is already more than halfway over. Once the term ends, any subpoenas that Congress has issued will expire, and Congress will have to start its investigations from scratch with new subpoenas. Thus, Congress needs this information immediately to determine whether the information it has requested leads it to believe that legislation is necessary in any of these areas. Indeed, even if the court rules in favor of the House committees by June, that will leave precious little time

for Congress to consider these documents and determine whether to pass legislation before a new session of Congress begins in January.

The third case that would have been argued this week is Trump v. Vance, which concerns a grand jury subpoena for Trump's tax return and other financial records as part of an ongoing criminal investigation. The present suit is to block that subpoena as well, and this case is also urgent. The grand jury issued this subpoena in August, and its investigation would be incomplete without the requested documents, yet it is now almost April and it hasn't received them.

In short, these cases must be decided quickly to ensure that Trump is not able to run out the clock and that Congress and the grand jury receive the documents they need to conduct time-sensitive investigations. Supreme Court precedent is against Trump in both cases, yet if the court does not resolve these cases in a timely manner, that would, as a practical matter, amount to a victory for the president. So what is the court to do? Fortunately, it has options.

First, the court could reschedule arguments for late May, when the public health risk may be lower, and still decide the cases by June. Though this schedule will leave little time between argument and a decision, the compressed timeline is not unprecedented. For instance, in *United States v. Nixon*, also a case about a president's compliance with subpoenas, the court heard argument on July 8, 1974, and decided the case just two weeks later on July 24.

Second, even if the court reschedules

argument for late May, the justices should be prepared to hold argument by audio and video conference if they determine that in-person argument is still unsafe. This approach has downsides: Oral argument at the Supreme Court is often boisterous and involves frequent questioning of the advocates, and that will be more difficult electronically. Yet numerous courts of appeals have managed to hold arguments electronically during these challenging times, and the Supreme Court can as well.

Third and finally, if the court determines in-person argument to be unsafe and telephonic argument too unwieldy, the court should simply decide these cases on the papers without argument. To be sure, oral argument is important, and this approach would prevent the justices from pressuring the advocates on their arguments. But there has been extensive briefing in the cases, both from the parties themselves and dozens of "friend of the court" amicus briefs. Moreover, the court does sometimes issue decisions in cases without holding oral argument, even if generally not in blockbusters like these.

Although none of the above options is ideal, any of them would be preferable to delaying these cases indefinitely. Thus, the court should announce which of these options, or which combination of options, it will adopt, and it should make this announcement soon. That way, the public will understand the path forward and will know that the court will not delay the president to remain above the law.

Ashwin Phatak is an appellate counsel at the Constitutional Accountability Center.

## NATION



AP

**This photo provided by Geoffrey Bateman shows storm clouds at the Troy Municipal Airport on Tuesday in Troy, Ala. Strong storms with high winds and possible tornados toppled trees from Mississippi to Georgia.**

## Tornado slams Ala. town amid quarantine

BY JAY REEVES  
Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — An apparent tornado slammed into an Alabama neighborhood, shattering more than a dozen homes Tuesday while people were huddled down inside because of the coronavirus outbreak, as storms caused damage from Mississippi to Georgia.

Near the Alabama-Georgia line in Eufaula, a midday twister pulled the roofs off homes in a neighborhood near the Country Club of Alabama. The area was left littered with pieces of about 15 houses and trees, but Mayor Jack Tibbs said only one minor injury was reported.

"I was really expecting it to be worse with the coronavirus with people at home, but it wasn't," Tibbs said in a telephone interview.

Tibbs said there was "no doubt" a twister was to blame based on the severity of the damage, and forecasters said photos and radar showed a tornado in the area at the time.

The National Weather Service reported "considerable" damage several hours earlier in George County, Miss., where emergency management director Nancy Smith said trees hit at least two rural homes but there were no

immediate reports of injuries.

"The dispatchers are still busy answering all the calls coming in," she said. Utility crews were out working to replace broken power poles within hours.

Multiple trees were down across central Alabama, including Birmingham's southern suburbs. A barn was destroyed in rural east Alabama, the weather service reported, and video showed debris swirling around a tornado on the ground near the city airport in Troy.

More than 50,000 homes and businesses were without electricity in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi, where the weather service said winds up to 60 mph were possible. Scattered damage extended as far south as northern Florida.

No damage was reported from waterspouts spotted over Mobile Bay and Choctawhatchee Bay in Florida.

Forecasters issued a series of tornado warnings and a tornado watch as storms moved eastward toward the Atlanta area. No injuries or touchowns were confirmed, but the weather service said the threat was expected to continue through the afternoon.

Temperatures were expected to fall into the mid-40s overnight after storms passed, the weather service said.

# Census Day arrives with US almost paralyzed by virus

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER  
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Census Day — the date used to reference where a person lives for the once-a-decade count — arrived Wednesday with a nation almost paralyzed by the spread of the novel coronavirus. But census officials vowed the job would be completed by its year-end deadline.

The virus' spread has forced the U.S. Census Bureau to suspend field operations for a month, from mid-March to mid-April, when the hiring process would be ramping up for up to 500,000 temporary census takers. The bureau also has delayed the start of counts for the homeless and people living in group quarters like college dorms and nursing homes, and has pushed back the deadline for wrapping up the head count from the end of July to mid-August.

The Census Bureau is required by federal statute to send the president the counts that will be used to carve up congressional districts — a process known as apportionment — and draw state legislative districts by Dec. 31. Some groups are suggesting that the deadline be pushed back, though it's currently mandated by federal law.

"We are laser-focused on the statute's Dec. 31 deadline for apportionment counts and population counts. We will continue to assess all of our operations to see if there are any changes that need to be made," Michael Cook, chief of the Public Information Office at the U.S. Census Bureau, said Tuesday.

The head count started in late January in rural,

native villages in Alaska, but the rest of the country wasn't able to start answering the questionnaire until the second week of March when the Census Bureau's self-response website went live and people received notices in the mail that they could start answering the questions. But that was only a week before many governors and mayors started issuing stay-at-home orders to slow the virus' spread, greatly hindering in-person rallies, meetings and door-knocking by activists to raise awareness about the 2020 census.

The U.S. Census Bureau is spending \$500 million on outreach efforts, including advertising, and it's relying on more than 300,000 nonprofits, businesses, local governments and civic groups to encourage participation in their communities. Those efforts have been hamstrung by the nationwide shutdown.

Most of the census takers won't be sent out until late May to knock on the doors of homes where people haven't yet answered the questions online, by telephone or by mailing back a paper questionnaire. Until then, the Census Bureau is pushing people to answer the questions so they won't have anyone knocking on their doors in late spring and summer.

As of Monday, more than 36% of households had already answered the questions, and the Census Bureau reported this week that 40,300 temporary workers were on the payroll as of mid-March.

The 2020 census will help determine how many congressional seats and Electoral College votes each state gets, as well as the distribution of some \$1.5 trillion in federal spending.

## Watchdog finds new problems with FBI wiretap applications

BY ERIC TUCKER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department inspector general found additional failures in the FBI's handling of a secretive surveillance program that came under scrutiny after the Russia investigation, identifying problems with dozens of applications for wiretaps in national security investigations.

The audit results, announced Tuesday by Inspector General Michael Horowitz, suggest that FBI errors while eavesdropping on suspected spies and terrorists extend far beyond those made during the investigation into ties between Russia and the 2016 Trump campaign.

The new findings are on top of problems identified last year by the watchdog office, which concluded that the FBI had made significant errors and omissions in applications to eavesdrop on former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page during the early months of the Russia investigation. Those mistakes prompted internal changes within the FBI and spurred a congressional debate over whether the bureau's surveillance tools should be reined in.

After the Russia report was submitted last December, Horowitz announced a broader audit of the FBI's spy powers and the accuracy of its applications before the secretive Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

The watchdog office selected for review a subset of applications in both counterterrorism and counterintelligence investigations covering the period from October 2014 to September 2019. It found problems in each of the more than two dozen applications it reviewed, including "apparent errors or inadequately supported facts."

The audit examined how well the FBI was complying with internal rules that require agents to maintain a file of supporting documentation for every factual assertion they make in an application. Those rules, or "Woodes Procedures," were developed in 2001 with

**The watchdog office said it found an average of about 20 issues per application, including one application with about 65 issues.**

a goal of minimizing errors in the surveillance applications, known by the acronym FISA.

Horowitz said in a letter to FBI Director Chris Wray that in four of the 29 FISA applications his office selected for review, the FBI could not locate any of the supporting documentation that was supposed to have been produced at the time the application was submitted.

Each of the 25 other applications it reviewed contained "apparent errors or inadequately supported facts," the inspector general said.

The watchdog office said it found an average of about 20 issues per application, including one application with about 65 issues.

As a result, Horowitz wrote, "we do not have confidence that the FBI has executed its Woods Procedures in compliance with FISA policy, or that the process is working as it was intended to help achieve the 'scrupulously accurate' standard for FISA applications."

The office recommended that the FBI "perform a physical inventory" to ensure supporting documentation exists for every application in all pending investigations. It also recommended that the FBI examine the results of "past and future accuracy reviews" so that it can identify trends and patterns and develop better training for agents.

The FBI and Justice Department say they have begun making significant changes, including additional training and other safeguards meant to ensure the accuracy of surveillance applications.

## NATION

# Biden casts doubt on Democratic convention date

BY MATT VISER  
*The Washington Post*

Joe Biden raised significant doubts about whether the Democratic National Convention will be held as planned in July, with the likely presidential nominee suggesting that the party's major gathering, slated for Milwaukee, may need to be altered or postponed.

When asked whether he could envision holding the convention in July, given the concerns about large gatherings in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, Biden said, "It's hard to envision that."

"We should listen to the scientists," the former vice president told Brian Williams in an interview that aired late Tuesday night on MSNBC.

Biden noted that one reason the convention has been scheduled for mid-July was to accommodate the Olympics, which had been scheduled to begin July 24. Given that the Summer Games have been postponed to next year, Biden raised the possibility that the DNC could postpone the convention, saying, "there is more time now."

The Republican convention is scheduled for August in Charlotte.

"We ought to be able to do what we were able to do in the middle of the Civil War all the way through to World War II — have Democratic and Republican

conventions and primaries and elections, and still have public safety," Biden said. "We're able to do both."

Biden also made the case that the November election may be different from any other before it, and he called on states to begin preparing now for more absentee ballots. He also said that secretaries of state throughout the nation needed to consider a virtual election, with secure remote voting.

"They should be doing that now, planning on it," he added. "This is about making sure that we're able to conduct our democracy while we're dealing with a pandemic. We can do both. It may mean a difference in the way we do it. It may mean that social distancing doesn't get it done. It may mean that you have a circumstance where you have drive-in voting, literally. You pull up and have — there's a lot of ways to do it. But we should be talking about it now."

During the interview, Biden also again appealed to supporters of Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., but he refrained from calling on his last remaining rival for the Democratic nomination to leave the race.

"Bernie has a lot of very, very strong and ardent followers," Biden said. "I think it's a hard decision." Biden said, "I'm not going to tell him to stay in or get out, that's his decision. But I feel confident about being the nominee, I don't

think he would be successful if he did leave."

"This is a war. You need a general. Put somebody in charge," he said.



**Joe Biden**

see much that's going to change that."

Biden said that he would form a group within his campaign to start doing background checks on potential running mates within the next two weeks. He said that the list would be somewhere between six and 10 candidates, and he suggested among them could be Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, D-Mich. Biden has said that he will choose a woman as a running mate.

When asked whether, given her leadership in response to the coronavirus outbreak in her state, he was lengthening his list of people to consider, Biden responded: "She hasn't lengthened the list. She made the list, in my mind, two months ago."

Biden also continued to criticize President Donald Trump for his handling of the global pandemic, saying that he should have done more and sooner. Biden said that if he were in charge, he would appoint one person to lead the administration's response.

"This is a war. You need a general. Put somebody in charge," he said.

# Trump allies warn against feud with swing state governor

BY STEVE PEOPLES  
AND DAVID EGGERT  
*Associated Press*

LANSING, Mich. — President Donald Trump's allies are trying to contain a politically risky election year fight with Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer as he struggles to balance presidential priorities with a global pandemic in one of the nation's most important swing states.

Both sides have tried to de-escalate the feud this week, although Trump's supporters in particular sought to downplay tensions that ratcheted up over the weekend when the Republican president unleashed a social media broadside against Whitmer, a Democrat who had been critical of the federal government's response to the coronavirus outbreak. Trump has clashed with other Democratic governors as well, but he saved his most aggressive insults for the first-term female governor, who is considered a leading vice presidential prospect for his opponent.

"Everyone should be shedding the partisanship and coming together," Republican National Committee Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel said in an interview when asked about Trump's attacks, suggesting that some of his criticism had been mischaracterized.

"I am rooting for Gov. Whitmer," said McDaniel, who lives in Michigan. "I think she's done good things.... I just didn't like her trying to lay every problem at the president's feet."

The backpedaling underscores

the nature of the dispute, which comes seven months before Election Day in a state that could make or break Trump's reelection bid. Michigan is an elite presidential battleground that has historically celebrated bipartisanship and pragmatism while rewarding candidates who rally behind key institutions in crisis. Four years ago, Trump eked out a win by about 11,000 votes out of more than 4.5 million cast in the state.

Mitt Romney, the 2012 Republican presidential nominee and McDaniel's uncle, lost his home state of Michigan in 2012 after opposing federal efforts to rescue the automotive industry. And Trump, by unleashing a personal attack against the state's governor in the midst of a pandemic, has sparked new fears that he, too, may be hurting himself and his party on the eve of the next election.

Michigan Rep. Paul Mitchell, a Republican, said that he raised concerns about Trump's political attack with the administration directly.

"I did relay to the administration that I didn't think it was helpful and why play that game," Mitchell said in an interview. "These are times when the American people look for leaders. Leaders don't whine. Leaders don't blame."

He said that he raised similar concerns with Whitmer's office, suggesting that her criticisms and the federal response have not necessarily been accurate.

"This is not the time where we need more drama in this country," Mitchell said.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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944



## Transportation

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police: Couple accused of abducting man

**LA** SHREVEPORT — Authorities arrested a Louisiana couple accused of kidnapping a man from a hotel early Sunday, according to police.

Shreveport police charged Wilbert Vanzant and Kayla Owen with aggravated kidnapping, the department said in a statement obtained by news outlets.

The two 29-year-olds were accused of abducting Stephen Hatcher, 36, from a hotel around 1 a.m.

Hatcher told authorities he was bound, beaten and forced to withdraw money from an ATM, according to the statement.

Hatcher escaped and reported the kidnapping to deputies in DeSoto Parish, police said.

## Electronics sniffing K-9 assists in porn arrest

**FL** PENSACOLA — A K-9 capable of detecting electronic storage devices assisted Florida Department of Law Enforcement agents in finding 30 images of child pornography.

FDLE agents arrested Jason Andrew Winn, 41, last week in Pensacola on 30 counts of possession of obscene material and one count of promoting sexual performance of a child, the Pensacola News Journal reported.

Police in Texas learned that obscene material had been downloaded by a computer with an IP address linked to a Pensacola residence, according to an arrest report. The agency told authorities in Florida, where officials said the address was tied to Winn's internet account.

Using a search warrant, officials found pornographic images depicting children on a laptop. An FDLE K-9 named Maple alerted agents to a box in a closet, where agents found a Paracord bracelet with a USB drive hidden inside, which contained additional images of child pornography.

## Town's neighborhood 'safari' created for kids

**KY** LEXINGTON — A Kentucky town launched a neighborhood "safari" for children during the coronavirus pandemic by displaying stuffed animals in the windows of their homes.

The "Cumberland Hill Zoo Walk" was kicked off Sunday morning in Lexington after 60 houses in the community signed up, WKYT-TV reported.

"I have challenged kids to have a zoologist notebook and then go around and record the animal sightings," said Marian Quinn, the organizer of the zoo walk.

Throughout the week, families in the Cumberland Hill neighborhood will look for animals and submit their findings for a chance to win different prizes.

## Container ship back underway after mishap

**LA** POYDRAS — Traffic restrictions on the Mississippi River have been lifted



ELIZABETH FLORES, (MINNEAPOLIS) STAR TRIBUNE/AP

## Suspended, with no disbelief

Four-year-old Effie Sahlberg, right, and her brother Gus, 7, enjoy the outdoors in their portable hammocks before a picnic at Fort Snelling State Park, on Monday in St. Paul, Minn.

after a container ship that ran aground was back underway, the U.S. Coast Guard confirmed.

The container ship, called the Belita, ran aground around 3:20 a.m. Friday near Poydras, close to the Plaquemines Parish and St. Bernard Parish lines.

The ship hit a rock-like structure along the shoreline called a riprap, the Coast Guard said.

Petty Officer Lexie Preston said the grounded ship was back underway as of 3 p.m. Friday. No injuries or signs of pollution at a result of the accident were reported, Preston said.

## Report: Mass breakout started as jail riot

**WA** YAKIMA — Last week's breakout from the Yakima County jail began with an inmate refusing to go back to his bed, leading to a riot.

Reports filed by county Department of Corrections officers in court state that one inmate incited others in the jail to throw furniture and other items at officers before breaking down a fire door and escaping.

The Yakima Herald-Republic reported that while the riot was the initial catalyst, those who escaped later told investigators that fear of contracting COVID-19 in

## THE CENSUS

# \$160K

The value of equipment a Longview Wash., wireless network supplier lost to someone suspected of posing as an international construction company, according to a police report. Last Mile Gear reported the apparent scam to Longview police on Wednesday, The Daily News reported. A company official told police it thought it sold the products to North Carolina-based Turner Construction Co., so it shipped the supplies to two locations on the East Coast. The equipment has since disappeared. And when Last Mile called the construction company, a representative said Turner "did not and has never purchased" from the Longview supplier, according to the report.

the jail was a motivating factor in their decisions to leave.

Fourteen inmates escaped, with eight of them apprehended within 15 minutes. The remaining six were rounded up over the course of the week.

## Police seek man who damaged a taro patch

**HI** WAINIHA — An unidentified man took a backhoe to a taro patch in northern Kauai, damaging a staple of the traditional Hawaiian diet, a local food supply and an attached water line affecting water service in the region, authorities said.

No citations or arrests have been made yet, and water service has since been restored, police said. Witnesses told police they

saw a man taking down the fence and tearing up dirt and plants on the property using a backhoe.

This is the first time the taro patch has been damaged since a land debate conflict was settled in court over the property, property manager Kaini Hermosura said.

## Man held after trooper shot and vehicle stolen

**NV** ELY — A highway patrol trooper was shot, his patrol vehicle was stolen and a suspect was arrested Friday with possible explosives following a confrontation a little before dawn in a remote area of northeastern Nevada, authorities said.

The Nevada Highway Patrol did not immediately provide inform-

mation about the condition of the trooper, but confirmed the shooting happened about 6 a.m. on U.S. 93 south of the White Pine County seat of Ely, when the trooper stopped to help a motorist.

A man was detained after 10 a.m., and materials identified as possible explosives were found, said Lincoln County Sheriff Kerry Lee. Lee said it appeared the man acted alone.

## Officials see 57 goats in mountain range

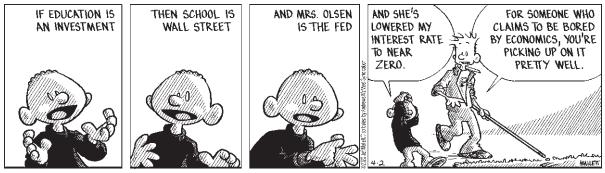
**WA** SPOKANE — Idaho biologists counted 57 mountain goats in the Selkirk Mountain Range this year, the first survey of the animals in the range since 2001.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Wildlife made an aerial observation of the goats that head to steep and bare, rocky areas in the winter, The Spokesman-Review reported. The mountain range runs along the Idaho and Washington state border, extending north into British Columbia.

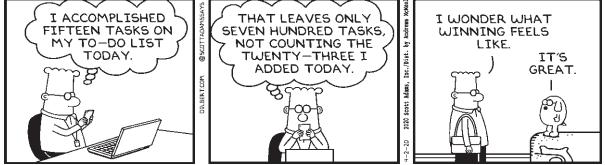
The biologists counted 34 goats in 2001. In 2019, Idaho updated hunting guidelines to help manage the mountain goat population.

From wire reports

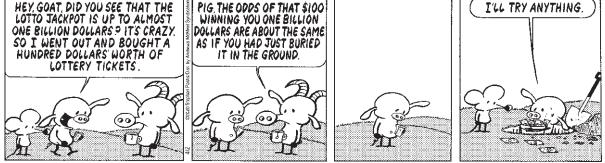
Frazz



Dilbert



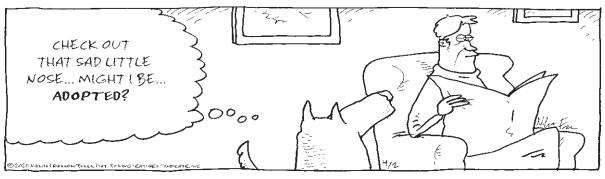
Pearls Before Swine



Candorville



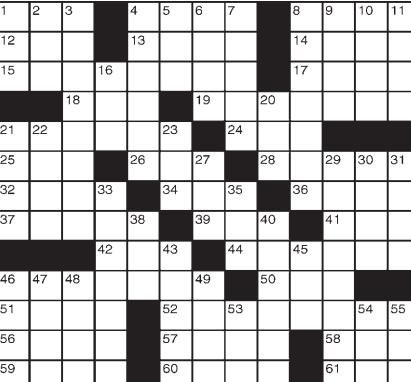
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro

**Eugene Sheffer Crossword****ACROSS**

- 1 Apply cream
- 4 "The Lion King" villain
- 8 Forehead
- 12 Yale grad
- 13 North —
- 14 Swiss river
- 15 Book cover parts
- 17 Pride parade initials
- 18 Not 'neath
- 19 Lacking purpose
- 21 Politician Mitt
- 24 "The Matrix" role
- 25 Onassis nickname
- 26 Melancholy
- 28 Rich cake
- 32 Honey drink
- 34 Sportage maker
- 36 Close
- 37 Sun-powered
- 39 Santa's helper
- 41 Cato's 5th
- 42 "Uhh-uh"
- 44 Silk or satin, e.g.
- 46 Advertised insistently
- 50 As well
- 51 Hoops great Monroe
- 52 Abe Lincoln's first home
- 56 Teen's woe
- 57 Entreaty
- 58 Wedding words
- 59 Hardy heroine
- 60 Coin aperture
- 61 Pester

**DOWN**

- 1 Society newcomer
- 2 "The Greatest"
- 3 Math expression with two terms
- 4 Church toppers
- 5 Anti
- 6 Pond growth
- 7 Pine product
- 8 Inflated party prop
- 9 Fury
- 10 Spheres
- 11 Saturates
- 12 Lion's home
- 20 Convened
- 21 Runs (into)
- 22 Twistable cookie
- 23 Tibetan beast
- 27 Conk out
- 29 Harbinger of spring
- 30 Curbside yell
- 31 Idle of Monty Python
- 33 Hangs loosely
- 35 TV alien
- 38 Joplin piece
- 40 Nabob
- 43 Lends a hand
- 45 Large snake
- 46 Bog fuel
- 47 Lingerie trim
- 48 Grecian vessels
- 49 Ken or Barbie
- 53 Earth (Pref.)
- 54 Writer Tarbell
- 55 Egg yolk

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

W	A	G	S	A	D	E	C	A	R	P
I	N	A	R	E	A	O	V	E	R	
N	E	T	M	I	C	R	O	W	A	V
D	W	E	B	N	A	B				
R	E	D	G	R	A	V	Y	A	L	E
E	U	D	G	R	I	D	S	L	E	N
D	E	P	C	O	N	C	L	A	V	E
O	N	S	E	T	N	A	R	C		
B	I	C	E	D	I	T				
M	I	S	B	E	H	A	V	E	D	U
O	R	A	L	E	P	I	C	L	E	G
T	A	P	E	T	E	C	H	E	D	S

**CRYPTOQUIP**

Y Z Z C J D   O Y K M D K V   O N Y   M F Y O  
V N Y K A N X F T   X F T   O N Y  
X K D   X R V Y   K C H C T  
T C V J C W R C F X K C X F V :  
V A D K F Y H K X W N D K V .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF OINTMENT WERE USED ON A RED, SWOLLEN MARK, I GUESS I'D THINK OF THAT AS WELT MANAGEMENT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals R

## SCOREBOARD/NFL

Sports  
on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.  
myafn.net

## Deals

## Tuesday's transactions

## FOOTBALL

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

**CHICAGO BEARS** — Re-signed S Andre Houston-Carson to a one-year contract. Acquired QB Nick Foles from Jacksonville Jaguars in exchange for 2020 compensatory fourth-round pick.

**CINCINNATI BENGALS** — Released G Eric Kirirkapash. Signed CB Greg Mabin.

**DALLAS COWBOYS** — Signed DT Gerald Sensabaugh to a one-year contract.

**INDIANAPOLIS COLTS** — Announced that WR Daurice Blake has signed tender. Signed CB TJ Carrie.

**CLEVELAND BROWNS** — Signed OG Chance Warmack and WR Phillip Dorsett to one-year contracts.

**DETROIT LIONS** — Signed DE Eric Thrasher to a one-year contract.

**TENNESSEE TITANS** — Agreed to terms with QB魏斯利·比西尔 on a one-year contract.

**WASHINGTON REDSKINS** — Signed LB Kevin Pierre-Louis. Re-signed G Brandon Scherff to a one-year contract.

## Pro football

## NFL calendar

**April 17** — Deadlines for restricted free agents to sign offer sheets.

**April 23** — NFL Draft, Las Vegas.

**May 19** — Spring owners meeting, Miami.

**July 14** — Training camps open.

**Aug. 6** — Hall of Fame game, Canton, Ohio.

**Aug. 8** — Hall of Fame inductions, Canton, Ohio.

**Sept. 4** — First roster cutdown to 53.

**Sept. 10** — Kickoff game to open regular season.

**Sept. 13** — First full regular-season schedule.

## Pro hockey

## NHL glance

## Eastern Conference

## Atlantic Division

**Boston Bruins** — W 40 L 20 OT Pts 69 GF GA 205

**Tampa Bay Lightning** — W 41 L 16 OT Pts 82 GF GA 245/195

**Toronto Maple Leafs** — W 36 L 25 O 9 GF GA 238/227

**New Jersey Devils** — W 39 L 21 O 9 GF GA 224/193

**Montreal Canadiens** — W 33 L 22 O 9 GF GA 212/177

**Buffalo Sabres** — W 30 L 31 O 8 GF GA 195/217

**Ottawa Senators** — W 35 L 25 O 10 GF GA 192/193

**Pittsburgh Penguins** — W 35 L 24 O 12 GF GA 187/205

**Detroit Red Wings** — W 31 L 25 O 12 GF GA 145/203

**Metropolitan Division**

**Washington Capitals** — W 40 L 20 OT Pts 80 GF GA 240/175

**Philadelphia Flyers** — W 41 L 21 O 7 GF GA 232/196

**Pittsburgh Penguins** — W 43 L 23 O 6 GF GA 286/244

**New York Islanders** — W 39 L 22 O 7 GF GA 224/193

**Columbus Blue Jackets** — W 33 L 22 O 8 GF GA 180/187

**N.Y. Rangers** — W 35 L 23 O 10 GF GA 192/193

**Vancouver Canucks** — W 35 L 24 O 12 GF GA 192/193

**New Jersey Devils** — W 28 L 29 O 12 GF GA 189/230

**Western Conference**

**St. Louis Blues** — W 40 L 19 OT Pts 95 GF GA 225/193

**Edmonton Oilers** — W 37 L 26 O 7 GF GA 220/193

**Dallas Stars** — W 37 L 24 O 8 GF GA 182/177

**Winnipeg Jets** — W 37 L 28 O 6 GF GA 216/203

**Calgary Flames** — W 36 L 27 O 7 GF GA 192/193

**Minnesota Wild** — W 35 L 27 O 7 GF GA 192/193

**Chicago Blackhawks** — W 30 L 30 O 8 GF GA 212/218

**Pacific Division**

**Vegas Golden Knights** — W 39 L 24 O 8 GF GA 227/211

**Edmonton Oilers** — W 36 L 27 O 9 GF GA 225/215

**Calgary Flames** — W 36 L 27 O 9 GF GA 225/215

**Vanancouver Canucks** — W 36 L 27 O 6 GF GA 228/217

**Anaheim Ducks** — W 36 L 27 O 7 GF GA 195/215

**Los Angeles Kings** — W 29 L 35 O 6 GF GA 178/212

**San Jose Sharks** — W 29 L 36 O 5 GF GA 182/226

All games postponed at least until mid-May.

## Pro baseball

## MLB calendar

**TBA** — Opening day, active rosters reduced to 26 players.

**June 3-4** — Owners meeting, New York.

**July 14** — All-Star Game at Los Angeles.

**July 26** — Hall of Fame induction, Cooperstown, N.Y.

**Sept. 31** — Last day during the season to trade a player.

All games postponed at least until mid-May.

## TENNIS/BASEBALL/NHL

# Wimble-done

## Oldest Grand Slam canceled for the first time since World War II

BY HOWARD FENDRICH  
Associated Press

Wimbledon was canceled on Wednesday because of the coronavirus pandemic, the first time since World War II that the oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament won't be played.

Britain imposed a nationwide lockdown just over a week ago, and the All England Club announced after a two-day emergency meeting that the event it refers to simply as The Championships is being scrapped for 2020. That hadn't happened since 1945.

Wimbledon was scheduled to be played on the club's grass courts on the outskirts of London from June 29 to July 12.

Instead, the next edition of the tournament will be June 28 to July 11, 2021.

Eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer surely spoke for many with a one-word message on Twitter: "Devastated."

Also Wednesday, the ATP and WTA announced that the men's and women's professional tours would be suspended until at least July 13, bringing the number of elite tennis tournaments affected by the coronavirus to more than 30. The top tours already had been on hold through June 7. Lower-level events on the Challenger Tour and ITF World Tennis Tour also are called off through mid-July now.

Wimbledon first was held in 1877 and has been contested every year since, with the exception of two stretches: from 1915-18 because of World War I, and from 1940-45 because of World War II.

"It has weighed heavily on our minds that the staging of The Championships has only been interrupted previously by World Wars," club chairman Ian Hewitt said in a press release, "but, following thorough and extensive

consideration of all scenarios, we believe that it is a measure of this global crisis that it is ultimately the right decision to cancel this year's Championships, and instead concentrate on how we can use the breadth of Wimbledon's resources to help those in our local communities and beyond."

Wimbledon joins the growing list of sports events called off completely in 2020 because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

That includes the Tokyo Olympics — which have been pushed back 12 months — and the NCAA men's and women's college basketball tournaments.

Wimbledon is the first major tennis championship wiped out this year because of the coronavirus. The start of the French Open was postponed from late May to late September.

Shortly after the news came from Wimbledon, the U.S. Tennis Association issued a statement saying it "still plans to host the U.S. Open as scheduled," from Aug. 31 to Sept. 13 in New York.

Wednesday's decision by the All England Club means Novak Djokovic and Simona Halep will not get a chance to defend their Wimbledon titles from 2019.

"We are going through something bigger than tennis and Wimbledon will be back!" Halep wrote on social media. "And it means I have even longer to look forward to defending my title."

Serena Williams retweeted the club's message about the cancellation and wrote: "I'm shocked."

The move also takes away what might have been one of Federer's best chances to try to add to his men's record 20 Grand Slam titles.

Federer, who turns 39 in August, is currently recovering from knee surgery and planned to return in time for the European grass-court circuit that now has been erased from the calendar.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

**Los Angeles Angels outfielder Mike Trout, above, and other veterans will receive \$4,775 per day in advance pay for the first 60 days of the season. Trout would normally earn \$193,548 each day.**

## MLB vets getting \$4,775 daily

BY RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gerrit Cole,

Mike Trout and other veteran

major-leaguers will receive \$4,775

per day in advance pay for the

first 60 days of the season during

the stoppage caused by the new

coronavirus, a total of \$286,500.

That's just 2.5% of the \$193,548

the New York Yankees pitcher

and Los Angeles Angels outfielder

were scheduled to earn each day

during the 186-day season from

their \$36 million salaries, tied for

the major league high this year.

The daily total was obtained by The Associated Press after it was confirmed by Major League Baseball and the players' association following their agreement last week on how to proceed during the stoppage.

Less veteran players receive

smaller amounts specified in the agreement: \$16,500, \$30,000 or \$60,000, depending on the contract.

MLB has delayed opening day until mid-May at the earliest, and it remains unclear when or if the season will start.

On Wednesday, the two-game series in London between the Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The teams had been scheduled to play at Olympic Stadium on June 13-14.

Under the terms of the deal, teams are combining to give \$170 million in advance pay to players on 40-man rosters, injured lists and outright assignments to the minor leagues. The payments will be made in equal installments on the normal payroll schedule and do not have to be repaid if the sea-

son is scrapped. They cover from March 26, the original opening day, through May 24 or whenever the season starts, whichever is earlier.

A player receives \$275 daily if his salary while in the minors is \$46,000 to \$91,799, a group that includes highly touted rookies such as Boston infielder Bobby Dalbec and Atlanta outfielder Cristian Pache.

Those with salaries in the minors from \$91,800 to \$149,999, a group that has signed at least their second big league contract, get \$500 daily. Those players include well-regarded rookies such as Los Angeles Dodgers infielder Gavin Lux and Tampa Bay pitcher Brendan McKay.

Players with salaries in the minors of \$150,000 or more receive \$1,000 daily, including 2019 NL Rookie of the Year Pete Alonso.



LAURENCE GRIFFITHS/AP

Serbia's Novak Djokovic kisses the trophy during the presentation after he defeated Switzerland's Roger Federer in the men's singles final match of last year's Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London. The All England Club canceled this year's event on Wednesday because of the coronavirus pandemic.

## NHL extends quarantine until April 15

BY STEPHEN WHYNOW  
Associated Press

The NHL has extended its guideline for players and staff to self-quarantine until April 15 and it is possible the coronavirus pandemic could push that back even further.

Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly confirmed the extension to the Associated Press Tuesday. It adds an extra 11 days to the previous guidance of April 4, which Daly last week acknowledged was "a meaningless date" because of the rapidly changing situation.

"As we get closer to the date, we're going to have to make decisions as to what to do then," Daly said. "We're biting this off in chunks."

The NHL put its season on pause March 12 with 189 regular-season games remaining. Commissioner Gary Bettman said then he was optimistic of resuming the season and awarding the Stanley Cup.

The timeline for doing that still isn't clear. The NHL has asked teams for arena availability dates through August, so it wouldn't be inconceivable to see hockey last deep into the summer.

"Depending on how the country, the world handles the virus, I think there is a possibility of playing end of June, July, August," Washington Capitals general manager Brian MacLellan said Monday.

Several things have to happen first. President Donald Trump extended U.S. social distancing guidelines through the end of April, and the NHL said it will evaluate the situation 45 days into the CDC's eight-week recommendation against gatherings of 50-plus people that runs until mid-May.

The NHL's chief medical officer said getting players together in small groups is the first step toward potentially resuming the season. State, provincial and local lockdown regulations could affect the re-opening of team practice facilities for informal practices.

# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## TOP 10 ALL-TIME

With no March Madness, The Associated Press is moving stories and historical pieces to help fill some of the void in college basketball. A panel of AP sports writers voted in March on the top 10 men's basketball games in the history of the NCAA Tournament. They are being republished because the sport has been shut down by the coronavirus pandemic. The following game story, from March 30, 1991, was voted No. 5.

## No. 5

# Blue Devils end the Rebels' run

Duke's 1991 NCAA semifinal upset of UNLV ended one era, began another

By JIM O'CONNELL  
Associated Press

**A** second chance for Duke proved to be the last chance for UNLV. Recouping from a 30-point loss in last year's NCAA championship game, the Blue Devils won a game they were given as much chance of winning as drawing an inside straight at the gaming tables.

They beat the top-ranked Runnin' Rebels 79-77 on Saturday to end UNLV's dream of a repeat title, an undefeated season and basketball immortality.

Christian Laettner, the only Duke player who played well in the 103-73 loss last season, made two free throws with 12.7 seconds to play to give his team its final margin.

The Runnin' Rebels came down court with one final chance at keeping their dreams alive, but Anderson Hunt's three-pointer with 2 seconds to play bounced off the rim.

Hunt was hugged by his UNLV teammates. The Blue Devils' players celebrated. And UCLA stayed the last school to repeat in 1973, and Indiana in 1976 remained the last unbeaten champion.

The Runnin' Rebels' 45-game winning streak — the fourth-longest in Division I history — was ended two games short of where they had hoped. Duke will play Kansas, a 79-73 winner over North Carolina, in Monday night's championship game.

"It was one of the really great basketball games," Blue Devils coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "Our kids hung in there the whole

time, we just happened to play defense on the last exchange."

The upset by Duke must have been especially sweet to two coaches — Krzyzewski, his mentor and close friend who led the Hoosiers to that perfect championship record in 1976.

The Blue Devils had been no stranger to the Final Four, making a fourth consecutive appearance, fifth in six years, and ninth overall. They had reached the title game four other times, never leaving with a trophy, and now they would get a chance to walk off the court with one on Monday night.

Laettner finished with 28 points and it was his yeoman work off the boards which allowed Duke to stay in the game and hold nine leads in the second half.

UNLV (34-1) trailed in the second half this season for a total of 1 minutes, 21 seconds. Now, it will trail forever.

The Runnin' Rebels took a 76-71 lead with 2:31 to play, when Greg Ackles tipped in his own shot to cap a 6-0 run.

Bobby Hurley, plagued with stomach problems in last year's game as a poor performance, hit a three-pointer 15 seconds later to cut the lead to two.

UNLV was called for a 45-second shot-clock violation with 1:24 left and the Blue Devils' Brian Davis drove the baseline for a three-point play and a 77-76 Duke lead with 1:02 left.

The Hoosier Dome crowd was cheering as it hadn't expected to late in a Runnin' Rebels game. This was usually blowout time for the Rebels. Not this time, though.

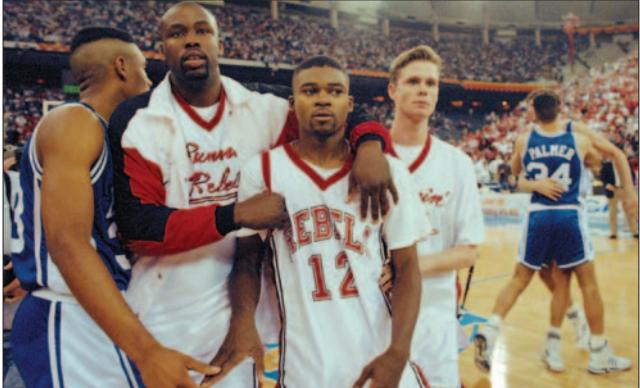
Stacey Augmon missed a shot

for UNLV, but Larry Johnson was fouled trying to convert the rebound with 49 seconds left. He missed both free throws, but a lane violation on the Blue Devils' Thomas Hill gave him another chance at the second and he made it to tie the game.

Duke ran down the shot clock, settling for a drive by Hill with 15 seconds to play. The shot missed, but Laettner grabbed the rebound, was fouled and made both for the final points.

Hill finished with 29 points, the same as in last year's title game, when he was named MVP. It was the absence of his backcourt mate over the final four minutes that made a huge difference.

Greg Anthony drew his fifth personal foul with 3:51 left when he was called for a charge. The basket was disallowed, and the Runnin' Rebels had lost their point guard and defensive specialist for crunch time.



UNLV's Anderson Hunt (12) is consoled by teammates after his potential game-winning three-pointer missed at the buzzer in his team's 79-77 loss in the 1991 NCAA semifinal to Duke in Indianapolis.

AL BEHRMAN/AP



BOB JORDAN/AP

After beating UNLV, Duke went on to defeat Kansas, giving coach Mike Krzyzewski the first of his five national titles.

for UNLV, but Larry Johnson was fouled trying to convert the rebound with 49 seconds left. He missed both free throws, but a lane violation on the Blue Devils' Thomas Hill gave him another chance at the second and he made it to tie the game.

Duke ran down the shot clock, settling for a drive by Hill with 15 seconds to play. The shot missed, but Laettner grabbed the rebound, was fouled and made both for the final points.

Win or lose in the title game, ending the Runnin' Rebels' winning streak will remove some of the sting of last year's rout for Krzyzewski and the returning

**'We did it by not listening to anyone but Coach K and the coaching staff.'**

Christian Laettner  
Duke forward, on his team's upset of UNLV

Blue Devils players.

"We did it by not listening to anyone but Coach K and the coaching staff," Laettner said. "We went into the game thinking we could win and we went out on the floor and did it today. We had a good game plan, we played our game. And we just played really tough, really intense out there."

UNLV coach Jerry Tarkanian said he hoped Johnson would get a chance at a winning three-pointer in the final seconds. Johnson brought the ball upcourt, passed to Hunt and never got the ball back.

"They played better than we did, they deserved to win, it was a great win for Duke and a tough loss for UNLV," Tarkanian said. "I just feel so bad for the kids, because they're the greatest group of kids I've ever been around. I just hurt inside for them."

Hunt finished with 29 points, the same as in last year's title game, when he was named MVP. It was the absence of his backcourt mate over the final four minutes that made a huge difference.

Greg Anthony drew his fifth personal foul with 3:51 left when he was called for a charge. The basket was disallowed, and the Runnin' Rebels had lost their point guard and defensive specialist for crunch time.

It made a difference. UNLV had the shot-clock violation and failed to move the ball as crisply as usual in the final minutes.

"When Greg was out of there, we were a little out of sync," Tarkanian said.

The Blue Devils trailed 43-41 at halftime, another improvement from last season when they were down 47-35 at intermission.

They scored the first two baskets of the second half and the lead changed hands in the second half more often than cards at the blackjack tables.

Davis finished with 15 points, and Hurley had 12 and Grant Hill 11.

Anthony had 19 points and six assists, while Johnson had 13 points and 13 rebounds.

The Runnin' Rebels finished with a 40-26 rebound advantage, but couldn't come up with one as big as Laettner's with 12.7 seconds to play.

Duke jumped on top 15-6 four minutes into the game, one point shy of the largest deficit UNLV faced all season.

The Runnin' Rebels quickly came back with an 8-0 run, dominating the boards, especially on the offensive end — 11 offensive rebounds to two for the Blue Devils in the first half and a 24-12 overall advantage.



BOB JORDAN/AP

Duke's Christian Laettner had 28 points, including two free throws with 12.7 seconds left, in his team's victory over UNLV.

# SPORTS



## Game, set, match

Pandemic forces 1st cancellation of Wimbledon since WWII » [Page 22](#)

### CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

# NOT READY TO PUNT

League anticipates normal season, votes to expand playoffs to 14 teams

By BARRY WILNER  
Associated Press

The NFL is gearing up for a normal season and playoffs—with two additional wild-card teams in the Super Bowl chase.

NFL team owners voted Tuesday to expand the playoffs by one team in each conference for a total of 14 next season as they continue to plan for the 2020 season to begin on time.

During a conference call to discuss league business after the annual meetings were canceled due to the new coronavirus, the owners also awarded one of those extra games to CBS and one to NBC. Three-fourths of the 32 owners needed to approve the change, and the vote was unanimous, football operations chief Troy Vincent said.

As for opening the season on Sept. 10 as scheduled, NFL lead counsel Jeff Pash said: "All of our focus has been on a normal traditional season, starting on time, playing before fans in our regular stadiums and going through our full 16-game regular season and a full playoffs."

That would include the two stadiums still under construction in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, plus international games in England and Mexico.

"I expect that international games will be part of our schedule for this year," Pash added. "We're optimistic just as we expect conditions in the Unit-



**Clemson defensive tackle Christian Wilkins shoulder-bumps NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell after the Miami Dolphins selected Wilkins in the first round of the NFL Draft on April 25, 2019, in Nashville, Tenn.** Such spontaneous moments will be missing when this year's draft is conducted remotely, but the NFL is hopeful that operations will be normal when the season opens Sept. 10.

ed States to permit playing a full season that that will be the case for our international partners as well. Obviously, that's something that we'll have to work closely with the authorities, public health

and other government authorities in those other countries to make sure it's entirely safe."

**SEE PUNT ON PAGE 21**



**'All of our focus has been on a normal traditional season, starting on time, playing before fans in our regular stadiums and going through our full 16-game regular season and a full playoffs.'**

**Jeff Pash**  
NFL lead counsel

## TO OUR READERS

As the sports world pauses to join the rest of the world in fighting the coronavirus pandemic, you will see fewer sports stories in Stars and Stripes. We look forward to resuming our normal coverage when the leagues and governing bodies determine it is safe for athletes and fans to return to competition.



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